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The Brooklyn Paper

Brooklyn's Real Newspaper

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WITH CARROLL GARDENS, COBBLE HILL, BOERUM HILL, FORT GREENE, CLINTON HILL, DUMBO, WILLIAMSBURG, GREENPOINT

TERMINATED

Biggest loser in Council vote is democracy

Double-talking Yassky attacked

By Gersh Kuntzman
The Brooklyn Paper

Voters are angry about the City Council's 29–22 vote last week to set aside term limits and allow Mayor Bloomberg to run for a third term — and lots of them are taking it out on David Yassky.

The Brooklyn Heigh[ts] councilman has become the main whipping boy for Brownstone Brooklyn outrage about the Council's Oct. 23 vote to set aside two prior public term-limit votes — mostly b[e]cause this self-proclai[med] reformer has been sho[wn to] be just another self-serving, double-talking pol, critics said.

"Yassky's real intention was always to serve another four years in office," said Ken Diamondstone, who had planned to run for Yassky's seat, but is now undecided because Yassky is now widely expected to abandon his quest to succeed no-longer-term-limited City Comptroller Bill Thompson and run for re-election instead.

"By doing an end run around the people's strong stance on [term limits], Yassky clearly demonstrated that he believes his own interests trump the voice of the voters," Diamondstone said.

Hours after the historic vote last Thursday, Yassky argued before the Independent Neighborhood Democrats, a reform-minded Carroll Gardens political club, that he did just the opposite.

He explained that after long soul-searching, he decided that he could support a 12-year term limit if it went before the public

See *YASSKY* on page 11

EDITORIAL: Yassky blew away his integrity. P. 12

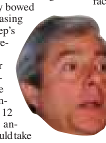
Brooklyn Paper Photo Composite / Sara Wentworth

Marty III scares off competition

By Mike McLaughlin
The Brooklyn Paper

It ain't over until Marty says it's over.

The controversial term limits extension cleared the decks for a third term for Borough President Markowitz as several leading opponents quickly bowed out despite increasing scrutiny of the Beep's ethics and overall record.



One day after the City Council's Oct. 23 vote to extend term limits from eight to 12 years, Markowitz announced that he would take full advantage.

"It was always his dream to serve Brooklyn as borough president, and [he] would be honored to serve Brooklynites for another term if the voters allow him that opportunity," his spokesman Mark Zustovich told The Brooklyn Paper.

And with those words, Councilman Bill DeBlasio (D–Park Slope) and Councilman Charles Barron (D–East New York) announced that they would campaign for other positions.

The suddenly uncompetitive race for borough president is a textbook example of the motivations behind having term limits in the first place, good government advocates said.

"The argument that extending term limits will in fact increase voter choice in 2009 is a red herring," said Dick Dadey, executive director of Citizens Union. "It will result in expected challengers deciding not to run, and will clear the way for Markowitz" to be easily re-elected.

Indeed, DeBlasio, who now

See *MARTY* on page 11

The Brooklyn Paper / Shravan Vidyarthi

Scare tactics

The Montague Street Business Improvement District gave away pumpkins to retailers on Tuesday — and renowned carver Hugh McMahon showed off his singular squash skills to craft one winning and one losing design.

Fresh talk of Nets in Jersey

Beep staffer wonders if team will ever get to Brooklyn

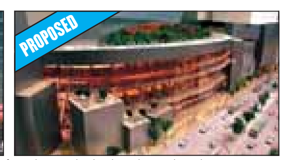
By Mike McLaughlin
The Brooklyn Paper

One of Borough President Markowitz's top staffers revealed on Monday that the deal to bring the New Jersey Nets to Brooklyn is as much of a sure thing as Shaquille O'Neal is from the foul line.

"I don't know if we're going to get the Nets," the Beep's Director of Planning and Development Jon Benguiat blurted out on Monday during an unrelated discussion about other Markowitz initiatives.

It was unclear if Benguiat's comment reflect Markowitz's current thinking about the unraveling Atlantic Yards project. But after an earlier version of this story was posted online at BrooklynPaper.com, Borough Hall e-mailed a statement affirming Markowitz's belief that the project, which he has championed since it was unveiled in 2003, would be built.

That conviction runs counter to Garden State officials, who have become increasingly confident that the Nets will stay in New Jersey. Those officials cite the fact that Nets owner Bruce Ratner's proposed $950-million arena at the intersection of Flatbush and Atlantic avenues is just one stalled part of his delayed 16-skyscraper residential-and-office Atlantic Yards project.



Bruce Ratner may end up moving his New Jersey Nets from the Meadowlands to the Prudential Center in Newark (left), which is already home to the New Jersey Devils hockey team, instead of moving to the long-stalled and unbuilt arena at the corner of Flatbush and Atlantic avenues (rendering right).

Lawsuits have contributed to some delays, but the larger problem has been the tightening of the credit markets, an inability to get more public subsidies from officials in Albany and at City Hall, and a failure to line up large corporate tenants for the office space.

Hours before Benguiat made his comment, The Daily News reported that Ratner had actually talked to investors about selling all or part of his Nets. Of course, it's not the first time Ratner has put the Nets on the block. Two years ago, he tried to sell 25 percent of the team.

Spokespeople for Forest City Ratner did not respond to requests for comments about Benguiat's slip. Last week, a company spokesman said that the project is "critical to the ongoing economic vitality of Brooklyn and the city."

Originally the Nets' arena, which is slated to be called the Barclays Center, was slotted to open in 2006 and be financed privately. Now, 2011 is the target and the arena is being funded entirely with public money.

Merry-go-DUMBO for Ohio group

100 Buckeye seniors come to re-live childhood on Jane's Carousel

By Sarah Portlock
The Brooklyn Paper

Gene Juillierat saw the horse and started crying.

"I remember this horse," the 78-year-old from Youngstown, Ohio, said, wiping his face with a handkerchief. "I used to say, 'Giddy-up, go.'"

Juillierat's reaction was actually quite typical last Friday morning in DUMBO as nearly 100 seniors from that eastern Ohio city converged on Jane's Carousel — the lovingly restored, 1920s-era merry-go-round that, 25 years ago, was part of Youngstown's Idora theme park.

Joan Yanchick organized the reunion after she saw a news segment about the carousel, which Jane Walentas — wife of DUMBO megadeveloper David Walentas — purchased at auction in 1984, and then spent 22 years renovating.

Yanchick immediately knew she had to bring those residents — those who shared childhood memories, summer jobs and prom dates — to the refurbished version.

"This [carousel] is extraordinary, and it is every bit as good as I imagined it," said Yanchick, noting that four generations of her family have ridden the carousel. "But it was not this beautiful before."

The 100-person group ranged in age from early 20s to 90s, and when Walentas turned on the carousel, the waterworks came out.

Mickey Rindin, 78, whose father co-owned the park, said he remembered the hours he used to spend polishing the pine floor when he was 15.

And for June Zordich, 67, the trip brought back memories of her junior prom, riding on the horses in her dress.

"We had our all-city prom at the ballroom in the park, so we went on the carousel in our gowns," Zordich said.

For her part, Walentas stopped crying long enough to take pictures with the visitors and accept a proclamation from the Youngstown mayor, Jay Williams, who sent his wishes with the emissaries.

The trip came as Walentas is collecting signatures to get the carousel included in the proposed Brooklyn Bridge Park waterfront development. Walentas has said she will donate the carousel and a permanent, protective structure to house it.

The Brooklyn Paper / Kirsten Joy Watts

Gene Juillierat broke down in tears when he saw one of the horses he used to ride. "I remember this horse," he said.

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The Brooklyn Paper enhances print distribution

The Brooklyn Paper

The Brooklyn Paper will resume home delivery in several Brownstone Brooklyn neighborhoods later this month and will deploy newsboxes in strategic on-the-street locations, Publisher Ed Weintrob announced on Thursday.

This two-pronged expansion of The Paper's print product will complement the steady growth of its award-winning Web site, BrooklynPaper.com, which has more than 600,000 page views per month.

It is timed to coincide with the lauching of The Paper's 30th anniversary celebration.

Last year, Brooklyn's real newspaper was named Newspaper of the Year, and its editor, Gersh Kuntzman, was named Editor of the Year and Columnist of the Year, by Suburban Newspapers of America, the largest trade association of community newspapers in city and suburban markets.

And last month, BrooklynPaper.com was named best Web site by the Independent Free Papers of America, which also awarded our print edition first place for front-page design.

In addition to home delivery and newsbox placements in select areas, The Paper's print edition will continue to be available in more than 250 "bulk drop" locations.

The Paper's home-delivery system is unique — no more than two papers are delivered to each building, and the number of advertising inserts is capped at three — to avoid the type of front-door clutter that accompanies typical circular distribution, Weintrob said.

"Once again, The Brooklyn Paper takes the lead, and remains the leading news organization in our borough," he added.

The Brooklyn Paper was the first general-interest free-distribution newspaper in Brooklyn when it began publication in 1978, and was a pioneer in online publishing in Brooklyn.

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EXCLUSIVE LICH SPEAKS!

Chief 'restructurer' explains layoffs and closures

By Mike McLaughlin
The Brooklyn Paper

Long Island College Hospital has fired 100 employees, will lay off at least 200 more, wants to close three key wings, has sold several buildings and plans to sell more. Management says the "restructuring" will put the hospital on stable financial ground. But the cutbacks have angered employees, patients and politicians who sense that LICH's parent company, Continuum Health Partners, won't stop scaling down until it closes the 150-year-old medical center entirely. Amidst these questions, Dominick Stanzione, LICH's CEO and Chief Restructuring Officer since July, invited The Brooklyn Paper in for an exclusive interview.

The Brooklyn Paper: In 1998, Long Island College Hospital merged with Continuum, which also runs St. Luke's-Roosevelt and Beth Israel hospitals. How has Continuum's relationship with Long Island College Hospital been positive?

Dominick Stanzione: It's very difficult for a hospital to sustain itself as a standalone facility, so most have looked for opportunities to join in partnership with others. When you purchase as part of a larger group, your price per unit goes down. When you bill together, you usually bring more leverage and expertise so you can have better reimbursement rates and collections. When you negotiate with large for-profit insurance companies, you are in much better position than if you are a much smaller nonprofit company.

BP: What about the actual quality of care?

DS: To the extent that you're operating costs are less [and] purchasing more efficiently, it's going to provide more resources for health care.

BP: Have there been any negative outcomes from being affiliated with Continuum?

DS: Whenever you become part of something larger you give away a certain degree of autonomy.

BP: It sounds like the hospital has given up some control over its services by having to close the maternity, pediatrics and dentistry departments.

DS: No, the board of Long Island College Hospital made those decisions. Continuum does not "own" LICH. The decision that the best way for Long Island College Hospital to continue to be a strong health care provider in the community is to close certain services was made by the board of Long Island College Hospital.

BP: With families moving into Brooklyn Heights, Cobble Hill and Brooklyn in general, why is this not a golden opportunity for LICH to grow and expand the maternity and pediatrics departments?

DS: First, the maternity services have been declining here at LICH for well over a year prior to any announcement. In the past, LICH had done up to 3,000 deliveries a year, but at the time of its announcement it was on a runway to about 2,200 this year. Maternity services in general tend to lose money. In other hospitals there are other services that make money that are able to subsidize those losses. In this case, because of the financial situation here, the board decided that the hospital could not subsidize the OB services.

The Brooklyn Paper / Tom Murnig

Dominick Stanzione is in charge of "restructuring" the Cobble Hill hospital.

BP: Why was there the drop-off in maternity when there were so many more conceivable customers?

DS: Many people go into Manhattan. Also, a large group of obstetricians were recruited to another facility in Brooklyn and that group left. It was a combination of many things.

BP: Would any department that sees a decline over the course of one year be put on the chopping block at LICH? Don't things fluctuate?

DS: Things do, but generally you don't go on a decline like that. When a hospital is losing money to the extent that this hospital has been for a number of years, many many services are going to be losing money, but you don't close them all. You come up with a plan to fix those services that are losing money. However, OB was losing so much money and the volume had been declining that there wasn't enough time or resources to fix that service without really jeopardizing the entire institution.

BP: Isn't the maternity wing a gateway service to acquaint people with the hospital who would come back in the future?

DS: I'm not aware of any study that actually shows that. All services are a gateway for other services. At LICH, 80 percent of the patients come in through the emergency department, so that's the gateway more than any other service.

BP: One thing we learned when we looked at LICH's audits was that the audit from 2006 described the hospital in very stable terms, whereas the audit from 2007 painted a drastic picture. How could things fall apart so quickly?

DS: You'd have to ask the accountants why they came to their conclusions. If you look at 2005, there were still substantial losses about in the range of $10 million. In 2006 and 2007, we lost about $30 million. In 2008, it accelerated, principally because the volume has gone done.

BP: You said you needed to act differently than in past attempts to stabilize Long Island College Hospital. What has LICH done wrong before?

DS: When property has been sold in the past, proceeds from those sales have been used to offset the deficits. It made everybody happy at the time, because nothing had to change. But at the end of the day, the problems that were causing those deficits were never addressed.

BP: Is money from Albany or Washington the only thing that would help? How much money are you talking about?

DS: The operating losses for OB are probably around $15 million a year. I don't know if government has the wherewithal to help even if they want to. We can't assume that a Brinks truck is going to come down Hicks Street.

BP: So it's just political showmanship when the elected officials rally outside your building?

DS: I wouldn't say that. They are truly trying to be advocates for the community. I respect that, but they don't have a pot of gold to tap into.

BP: Will there be more layoffs?

DS: Yes. The layoffs that just occurred will not be the final layoffs [he estimated 200 to 300 more pink slips]. There is no intention of requesting the termination of any additional services than what has been requested. In the case of dentistry, we're looking to have those services continued under a different sponsorship.

BP: What will Long Island College Hospital look like after the dust settles?

DS: It's going to be a community hospital that's focused on growing the services that the community needs, principally in medicine and surgery, and an active emergency department.

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Sound solution

Mystery of Greenpoint ring turns out to be very messy

By Ben Muessig
The Brooklyn Paper

The mystery of the peculiar tone of Greenpoint has been solved!

The ethereal ring-a-ling wasn't squeaky subway doors, amplified train signals, a noisy doorbell, a raucous cellphone ring or a rogue East River buoy as some residents suspected — it actually comes from the neighborhood's most-famous landmark: its sewage plant.

The strange chime, which rings sporadically during the day in the northern part of the neighborhood, comes from the public address system of the Newtown Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant at the corner of Greenpoint Avenue and Provost Street.

"It's the PA system," said Department of Environmental Protection spokeswoman Mercedes Padilla. "It's an internal communication device that's being updated now. It's a 53-acre site, so we use the intercom to communicate across it."

The bizarre tones consists of four high pitched ring-a-lings, which last for about 15 seconds — just enough time for the sound to confuse neighbors, but not long enough for them to track down its origin.

"You can here it echoing between the buildings," said William Beanfort, who lives at the corner of Greenpoint Avenue and McGuinness Boulevard — just one block from the sewage plant. "It sort of sounds like doorbell underwater."

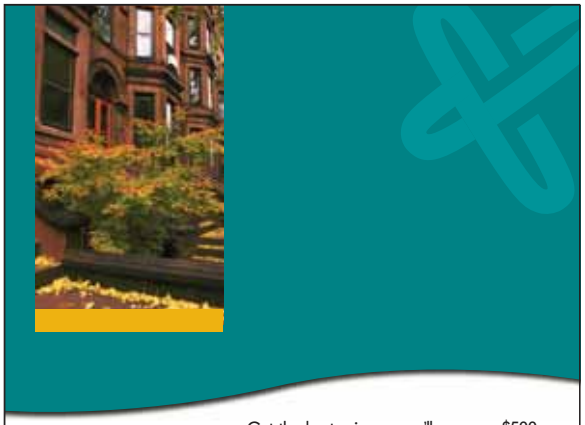
After wondering about the tone for a year and a half, Beautifort turned to the message board Brooklynian, where he found a handful of neighbors equally baffled by the ringing, but no definite answers about its cause.

The Brooklyn Paper / Tom Murnig

The mysterious "Greenpoint ring" has been solved! It's coming from the Newtown Creek sewage treatment plant.

"I have heard it, too," wrote whatsthatcat. "Very odd, I have often wanted to try to venture out to discover it's source, but I'm not a precocious pre-teen from a [young adult] novel in the '80s."

— with Makeda Dash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City draws the line vs feds

By Sarah Portlock
The Brooklyn Paper

A de facto 38th Parallel in the heart of Downtown Brooklyn has emerged along Cadman Plaza East between the federal courthouse and the city's Office of Emergency Management building.

Granted, the de-militarized "zone" is only about one foot wide, but there's no denying its meaning: one side of the line is city-controlled turf, the other side is federal land.

The line was painted by the city to warn construction workers — who are toiling on the north wing of the federal courthouse — to keep their equipment on their side, explained Department of Transportation spokesman Scott Gastel.

Message received, said U.S. District Courthouse project engineer Robert Collegio.

"The white line is as far as we're going to go," he said. "We're just trying to work with our neighbors and be happy — it's a good neighbor policy."

Both sides sound relieved to stand down.

"We were just joking today about how we're having a little turf war out here," said Karen, an OEM employee who declined to give her last name. "I say we set up some softball games [and] the winner takes control of the parking lot for a week."

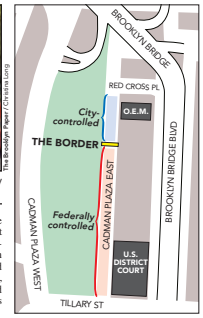
The Brooklyn Paper / Christina Long

The border: This line separates federal and city land on Cadman Plaza East in Downtown.

Kidding aside, the joke itself reveals how the public remains the losing party in this bureaucratic battle.

Until 9-11, the street was open for drivers, who could use it as a straight shot from Downtown to DUMBO. But after the terror attack, the feds seized it, citing security needs

Subsequently, judges and other employees from the U.S. District Court and OEM workers, both between Tillary Street and Red Cross Place, commandeered the block for use as a parking lot.



The federal judges and attorneys will be gone until 2010, thanks to construction trailers that will occupy the entire south end of the street.

Those federal workers now have to fend for themselves, a courthouse spokesman said. If so, that makes them quite unlike their state court counterparts at the Adams Street courthouse just to the south. Recently, those workers seized the northern part of Columbus Park as a temporary parking lot.

— with Emily Lavin

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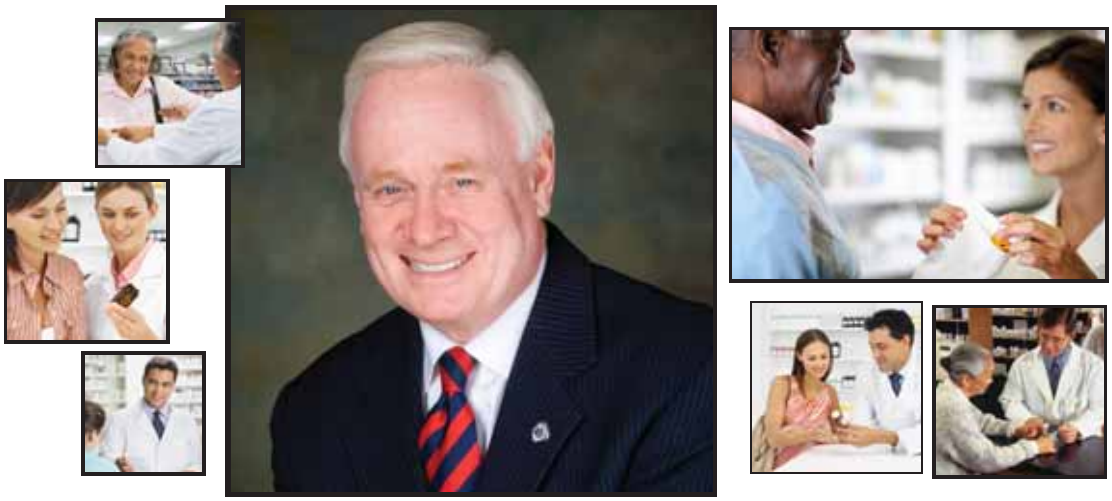

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THE stoop

BAY RIDGE–BENSONHURST DYKER HEIGHTS BATH BEACH

The Brooklyn Paper / Joe Marino

Goldblum's in Ridge!

No, there's no Brooklyn spinoff of "Law & Order" (not yet, at least), but Bay Ridge stargazers got a treat on Wednesday as towering star Jeff Goldblum (still beloved for his cameo as a Californian who has forgotten his mantra in "Annie Hall") was shooting an episode of "Law & Order: Criminal Intent" on 98th Street and Marine Avenue. Goldblum will make his debut on the show early next year, so Bay Ridge got the sneak peek. One thing is certain, the episode probably involved the investigation of illegal curb cuts. *— Zeke Faux*

Brook-Krasny and Capano square off at Paper office

By Ben Muessig
The Brooklyn Paper

State Assembly hopeful Bob Capano attacked incumbent Alec Brook-Krasny (D–Bay Ridge) for being a no-show on local issues — but the assemblyman said he was too busy working behind the scenes to take part in futile PR stunts such as a lawsuit to "save" Victory Memorial Hospital.

In fact, he said he is so active on local issues that he once accosted Mayor Bloomberg in a men's room!

That was certainly a highlight during several fiery exchanges in the candidates' Oct. 24 debate at the DUMBO offices of The Brooklyn Paper, where Capano, a Republican, repeatedly tried to cast the incumbent as a do-nothing politician, while the first-term incumbent coolly emphasized his work outside of public view.

Capano went on the attack first — and stayed on it throughout much of the debate.

The Brooklyn Paper / Kristen Joy Watts

Alec Brook-Krasny (left) and Bob Capano at The Brooklyn Paper's DUMBO office.

"Every single local elected official who represents Victory Memorial hospital … worked in a bipartisan way to fight the good fight, a fight that needed fighting," said Capano, a former aide to shamed Rep. Vito Fossella (R–Bay Ridge) and Borough President Markowitz, a Democrat.

"The only local elected official who didn't join that effort … was my opponent," said Capano in his quest for the 46th Assembly District seat, which stretches across the Fort Hamilton section of Bay Ridge, and includes Dyker Heights, Coney Island, Brighton Beach and other neighborhoods.

But Brook-Krasny — a Soviet émigré, community activist and former small business owner — said he was active in backroom negotiations to save the ailing 92nd Street hospital, and integral in establishing an urgent care facility at the medical center, which is now SUNY Downstate Bay Ridge.

"The situation at Victory was such that I didn't think anyone would be able to save the hospital," he said. "But I was still trying to get an emergency care and I am sorry I didn't get an emergency care."

Brook-Krasny said he was absent from protests and avoided the failed lawsuit because he is a "practical man."

"To me, [the lawsuit] was rather a PR move than anything else," said Brook-Krasny.

z Evoking a recent uptick in burglaries in Bay Ridge, Capano also struck at Brook-Krasny for twice voting against the "Chronic Criminal Act," which would reclassify as felons individuals who are found guilty of four misdemeanors, sentencing them to up to four-years in prison.

Brook-Krasny could not explain why he opposed the bill.

"I have to look into it," he said. "I voted on it, but I voted also on some other 2,000 bills. I could make things up, but I don't want to. I'm going to get back to you on that."

The candidates also clashed over their visions for a redeveloped Coney Island — or at least how they would go about discussing their ideas with Mayor Bloomberg.

Brook-Krasny suggested to Mayor Bloomberg in an Albany restroom that year-round amusements could make Coney Island self-sustainable.

Capano didn't disagree with Brook-Krasny's model for Coney Island redevelopment, but he said he would have chosen a better venue to discuss it with the mayor.

"I don't know if I would wait to bump into the Mayor in the bathroom before sharing my views," said Capano. "I think I would try to talk to the mayor's staff in a more professional way months and years ago when this was first occurring."

"Good luck getting them on the phone," Brook-Krasny replied.

Capano also tried to edge out his rival by calling into question more than $7,000 of campaign contributions that Coney Island developer Joe Sitt gave Brook-Krasny, but the incumbent struck back in jest.

"Are you afraid that you would be bought by $7,000, Bob?" joked Brook-Krasny.

Ridge crime wave breaks

By Ben Muessig
The Brooklyn Paper

The surge is working!

After a crime wave swept through the typically serene streets of Bay Ridge, an increased police presence has cut burglaries by more than 100 percent, to five last week from 12 the week before.

Deputy Inspector Eric Rodriguez, commanding officer of Bay Ridge's 68th Precinct championed the surge.

"It's working very well," Rodriguez said. "We made an arrest last night for someone breaking into a restaurant on Third Avenue. We've also made a couple of arrests on some of the other burglaries that have happened."

This week's downtick has convinced state Sen. Marty Golden (R–Bay Ridge) that the tide has turned on the spate of rear-window break-ins between 65th and 86th streets and Fourth and Seventh avenues.

"Talk to the people walking on the streets," said Golden, a former cop. "They notice the police presence and they feel safer. They feel like their old community is back."

Many residents remain unconvinced.

"Crime went down for one week — so what?" said 73rd Street resident Janice Shiavo "There have been break-ins all over and kids are still congregating on the corners. I don't feel any safer."

The Brooklyn Paper / Joe Marino

Out of control, into hospital

The driver of a car that crashed into an 88th Street office near Third Avenue is rushed to the hospital on Oct. 25.

Vicious home invasion — with guns!

POLICE BLOTTER

Find more online every Wednesday at
BrooklynPaper.com/blotter

68TH PRECINCT
Bay Ridge

A woman was robbed at gunpoint inside her Fifth Avenue home on Oct. 20.

The 19-year-old victim told cops that she was inside her apartment, which is between 78th and 79th streets, just before noon when two men knocked on her door with a story about a leak in her roof.

Once inside the apartment, one of the men pulled out a black handgun and pointed it at the victim, demanding money. While the second thug ransacked the bedroom, the first suspect bound the victim's hands and covered her mouth with duct tape.

The two men then grabbed $600 from a dresser drawer and fled.

2 × 2,000

At least two neighborhood homes were burgled in similar incidents last week.

First, at around noon on Oct. 16, someone broke into a 76th Street home, between 12th and 13th avenue, and stole more than $2,000 from the 90-year-old resident.

Then, at around 4:30 pm on Oct. 18, someone broke into a 74th Street home between Fourth and Fifth avenues. The 24-year-old resident told cops that $2,000 was missing from her bedroom, too.

Cars jacked

At least two parked cars were stolen from Bay Ridge streets last week:

• On Oct. 18, someone stole a car from a spot on Bay Ridge Avenue near the corner of 67th Street. The 46-year-old car owner said he had parked it at 10 pm, but eight hours later, it was gone.

• That same night, a thief stole a car parked on Fourth Avenue near 89th Street. In this case, the 22-year-old victim said he parked the vehicle at around 11 pm, but four hours later, it was gone.

— Emily Lavin

62ND PRECINCT
Bensonhurst

Big cash

At least two people broke into a Kings Highway supermarket on Oct. 22 and got away with a lot of cabbage.

The suspects entered the closed store, which is between West Fifth and West Sixth streets, through an opening in the roof at around 8:30 pm, cops said. They disabled the grocery store's alarm system before empting more than $50,000 from the safe, ATM and cash registers inside.

Utrecht snatch

A vicious purse-snatcher cornered and robbed a woman as she walked down New Utrecht Avenue on Oct. 25.

The victim, 24, was at 84th Street at around 9 pm when the suspect tried to grab her purse. The two struggled until the thug finally pushed the woman to the ground and snatched the pocketbook, fleeing with $60 and various debit and credit cards.

Bus-ted

Police arrested four men for attempting to rob a man as he stood on Bay Parkway Oct. 20.

The 22-year-old victim told cops he was waiting for the bus between 63rd and 64th streets just before 11 pm when the four thugs pulled up next to the curb in a gray car.

The suspects called out to the victim, and when, he wouldn't reply, got out of the car and walked toward him, telling him to hand over the gold chain around his neck.

When the suspects started to get violent, the victim turned and ran, and the suspects gave up.

Open windows

At least two homes in the neighborhood were broken into last week when homeowners left windows unlocked:

• The 66-year-old owner of a home on 24th Avenue house between 87th and 88th streets, told police that he returned home at around 9 am on Oct. 25 and noticed a near window wide open, and jewelry missing from inside.

• Just 45 minutes later, someone broke into a West Third Street home. The 55-year-old victim told cops that he entered his home, which is between 17th and 18th avenues, just before 10 am and found one of the unlocked windows open. The thief made off with various pieces of jewelry.

— Emily Lavin

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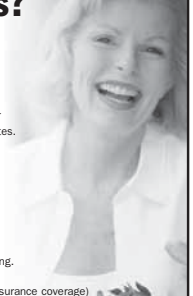

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THE stoop

NEIGHBORHOOD REPORT

CARROLL GARDENS

'Toll' rises on Gowanus

By Mike McLaughlin
The Brooklyn Paper

The first large, mixed-income housing project on the banks of the polluted Gowanus Canal scored a key first victory last Thursday night in the lengthy public approval process for the controversial development.

Toll Brothers, a major suburban home builder that has made recent inroads in Brooklyn, won approval from a Community Board 6 committee for its proposal to rezone two canal-side blocks currently restricted to manufacturing use so it can build 447 units of mixed-income housing, community and commercial space and a swath of open space.

The Land Use and Landmark Committee voted 12 to 1 in favor of Toll's project, with two abstentions.

Those in favor said that the residential development, which has set aside 30 percent of its units as below-market rate, will spur the cleanup of the fetid canal.

"The canal will get cleaned up faster if there's some [residents] in the neighborhood," said Jeff Strabone.

Toll is in contract to buy land bounded by Carroll, Second, and Bond streets and the canal, part of a larger area that the Bloomberg Administration has tabbed to become the next housing frontier.

The committee vote now goes to the full community board, then the borough president, Department of City Planning and City Council — all steps in the eight-month rezoning process.

If the city eventually grants Toll the green light, it could ignite the transformation of the rundown, industrial head of the canal into a residential bridge with 12-story towers jutting up between Carroll Gardens and Park Slope.

Opponents say the luxe builder's project is too large for a piecemeal rezoning and should be delayed until the city reviews the larger neighborhood plan for pockets of housing, commercial and industrial use in the canal zone.

That issue reared its head again at the Oct. 23 land-use committee meeting in PS 32 on Hoyt Street in Carroll Gardens.

"It's a huge project for our neighborhood," said Katia Kelly, a resident and local blogger.

But the Department of City Planning said Toll's project is compatible with its vision for the neighborhood.

"The application submitted by Toll Brothers is broadly consistent with the [rezoning] parameters," the department said in a letter to CB6.

And the builders most known for its suburban McMansions doesn't want to wait for the slow-turning wheels of municipal government to finalize its Gowanus framework.

"We've been working on this project for four years," said David Von Spreckelsen, vice president of Toll Brothers. "And frankly, we don't know what will come out of the [city's] framework."

The Department of City Planning has said it will finish its Gowanus rezoning by the end of next year. By then, Toll Brothers expects to have its rezoning and will have begun construction.

Community Board 6 will vote on Toll Brothers' proposition at its Nov. 12 meeting at 6:30 pm. The site is to be determined. Call (718) 643-3027 for info.

A bird's eye view of the planned Toll Brothers apartment complex along the Gowanus Canal.

DOWNTOWN

The Brooklyn Paper / Kristen Joy Watts

Finally, a supermarket is coming to Downtown. Brooklyn Fare will soon open in the State Renaissance Court building on Schermerhorn Street.

Two new groceries are set to open Downtown

By Sarah Portlock
The Brooklyn Paper

Bucking a citywide trend, Downtown is about to get two new grocery stores.

The new supermarkets will open at opposite ends of the neighborhood — Brooklyn Fare at the intersection of Hoyt and Schermerhorn streets, and Concord Market at Jay and Tillary streets — but are being hailed with the same basic reaction.

"This is what we've been waiting for!" said Arlene Jennings, who lives on State Street several blocks from Brooklyn Fare. "This is the first opportunity there has been to get groceries on the walk home from the subway."

Fare will open early next year and offer prepared foods, a coffee bar, lunch and breakfast options for nearby office workers, a deli, as well as typical groceries and other household items, explained spokeswoman Roberta Ronsivalle.

"We felt that there is an opportunity for creating something unique — an opportunity for a more gourmet grocery food concept," Ronsivalle said. "Brooklyn Fare is definitely something that we believe is missing in Downtown Brooklyn."

Cheeky advertisements clearly designed to get the attention of the increasingly upscale neighborhood's new residents went up in the store's windows last week, announcing an expansive cheese bar that will "stink," and boasting, "Our kitchen is bigger than yours."

Meanwhile, the Concord Village residential complex will finally get a replacement for the Associated Supermarket that shuttered in July.

"We understood clearly what kind of market we needed there, and a demand for a higher quality," said Concord Village Board President Claudia Corwin.

For Erica Rosario — who is a student at City Tech on Jay Street near the Associated and who lives on Pacific Street near Brooklyn Fare — the two new grocers couldn't be more convenient.

"[It's] good for the community," said Rosario, 20.

Adding to the good culinary news is this tasty bite: A renovated Gristedes supermarket is expected to reopen later this year at 79 Henry St., near Clark Street, after a fire destroyed the store last spring. And Trader Joe's recently opened its first Brooklyn store on the very edge of Downtown, at the corner of Court Street and Atlantic Avenue.

Such developments are definitely counter to the trend in the city, which has lost a third of its supermarkets in just six years, an industry report revealed earlier this year.

But Downtown's grocery growth is as much about numbers than about food: By 2012, the neighborhood is expected to add 20,000 residents, according to the Downtown Brooklyn Partnership.

— with Zeke Faux

DOWNTOWN

Ratner not a king for queens

By Sarah Portlock
The Brooklyn Paper

They're here, they're queer — and they're going to build a place of their own with or without Bruce Ratner's help!

Brooklyn's gay community is moving forward with a plan to create a place of their own in or near Downtown, even without promised space from developer Ratner.

Last year, Ratner and Borough President Markowitz had discussed providing space for the "Brooklyn Pride Community Center" in a Ratner-owned building Downtown, but the Lambda Independent Democrats, a gay political group, had a falling out with the Atlantic Yards developer and his chief cheerleader over suspicion that gays would need to support the mega-project in exchange for getting the community center.

Now, organizers of the pride center are moving full-steam ahead without Ratner. Since September, organizers have created an 18-member board, and begun fundraising.

The next step is to find permanent space, said board chair Tom Smith, a former president of the Stonewall Democrats political organization.

"We're willing to meet and discuss possible sites in Brooklyn with any developer who's willing to want to make a presentation to the board," Smith said. "But Ratner has never done that. We're opening to meeting with him, but obviously the ball is in his court."

Ideally, a permanent location will be in an easily accessible Brooklyn neighborhood, like Downtown, where dozens of subways and bus routes converge, Smith said.

"The first year, we are going to look at either renting low cost space or begging some churches or other institutions to let us use it as cheaply as possible," Smith said.

The center will offer social events, discussions about community and legal issues, and possibly career counseling, Smith said. The board also hopes to establish a legal center.

"A lot of problems occur here in Brooklyn, and [not everyone] wants to travel all the way up to the center in Manhattan," Smith explained, pointing to issues like youths coming out, language barriers with immigrants, and seniors' concerns. "It's 70 square miles, it's large enough to sustain its own center."

Markowitz, who has long supported gay rights, agreed.

"Brooklyn has one of the largest lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender populations in the United States, so it's with a great deal of pride that we support our very own center," said Markowitz. "I've always said that Brooklyn is a proud home to everyone from everywhere — with emphasis on the word proud — and this center will be a welcoming space for our growing LGBT community."

Ratner did not return a call for comment.

For more information about the center, visit www.brooklynpridecenter.com.

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To East End* (Eastbound)

MONTAUK LINE (READ DOWN; AM LIGHT PM BOLD)	Fri PM Only	NORTH FORK LINE	Fri PM Only
DEPARTING			
Park Slope - 4th Avenue & 9th Street	5:30	Park Slope	5:30
Park Slope - 4th Avenue & Union Street	5:35	Park Slope	5:35
Boerum Hill - Atlantic Avenue & 3rd Avenue	5:45	Boerum Hill	5:45
B. Heights -Tillary St. between Cadman Plaza East & West	6:00	B. Heights	6:00
ARRIVING			
Manorville	7:50	Tanger Outlet	8:00
Southampton	8:15	Riverhead	8:05
Water Mill	8:20	Aquebogue	8:10
Bridgehampton	8:30	Jamesport	8:15
Wainscott	8:35	Laurel	8:20
East Hampton	8:45	Mattituck	8:25
Amagansett	8:55	Cutchogue	8:35
Napeague	9:10	Peconic	8:40
Montauk	9:15	Southold	8:45
		Greenport	8:55

Brooklyn Service Eastbound Pick-up Locations: 1 Trip on Fridays
1) 4th Ave. @ 9th St. - East side of 4th between 8th and 9th Streets at the M, R & F subway station entrance in front of the Church of St. Thomas Aquinas.
2) 4th Ave. @ Union St. - East side of 4th between Sackett and Union at the M, R & F subway station entrance in front of Maria's Mexican Bistro, 209 4th Ave. across from the Hess gas station.
3) Atlantic Ave. between 3rd & 4th Ave. - North side of Atlantic at bus shelter.
4) Tillary St. - Between Cadman Plaza East & West at H.J. sign near bus shelter.

Brooklyn Service Westbound Drop-off Locations: 1 Trip on Sundays
1) Cadman Plaza @ Clark St. - Bus stop shelter west side of street (Subway).
2) Court St. @ Joralemon St. - At bus stop west side of street (Subway).
3) Union St. @ 4th Ave. - At bus stop south side of street.
4) Prospect Park West & 2nd St. - At bus stop across from park entrance.
5) 9th St. & 4th Ave. - Bus stop in front of St. Thomas Aquinas Church (249 9th Street.)
6) Tillary St. - Between Cadman Plaza East & West at H.J. sign near bus shelter.
* On select trips, passengers may be required to transfer in Manorville.

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MONTAUK LINE (READ DOWN; AM LIGHT PM BOLD)	Fri PM Only	Sun PM Only	NORTH FORK LINE	Sun PM Only
DEPARTING				
			Greenport	5:40
Montauk	—	5:00	Southold	5:50
Napeague	—	5:05	Peconic	5:55
Amagansett	—	5:20	Cutchogue	6:00
East Hampton	—	5:30	Mattituck	6:05
Wainscott	—	5:40	Laurel	6:10
Bridgehampton	—	5:50	Jamesport	6:15
Water Mill	—	6:05	Aquebogue	6:20
Southampton	2:00	6:15	Riverhead	6:25
Manorville	—	6:40	Tanger Outlet	6:30
ARRIVING				
B. Heights - Cadman Pl. & Clark St.	4:10	8:30	B. Heights	8:30
B. Heights - Tillary St.	—	—	B. Heights	—
B. Heights - Court St. & Joralemon St.	4:15	8:35	B. Heights	8:35
Park Slope - Union St. & 4th Ave.	4:25	8:45	Park Slope	8:45
Park Slope - Prospect Park W. & 2nd St.	4:30	8:50	Park Slope	8:50
Park Slope - 9th St. & 4th Ave.	4:35	8:55	Park Slope	8:55

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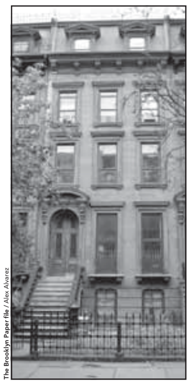
Heights anxiety

Locals want Prospect Heights to get protections as a historic district

By Sarah Portlock
The Brooklyn Paper

If there's a knock at your door in the next six months from a formally dressed man or woman, don't assume it's the Jehovah's Witnesses — it may be someone from the Landmarks Preservation Commission.

In the coming months, city inspectors will ring doorbells on nearly 870 buildings across a 12-block swath of Prospect Heights, part of the study process before the Commission votes in July to landmark the area.



The Brooklyn Paper file / Alex Alvarez

Historic structures like these would be protected under a city plan to designate much of Prospect Heights as a historic district.

At a hearing on Tuesday, nearly 30 supporters said that the neighborhood needs protection to preserve the "special sense of place" and "district streetscape" of the area's mid-19th-century architecture.

No one testified against the proposal, which is rare.

"The character and scale of Prospect Heights is threatened today by development seeking to maximize [what is] available to be built under the district's zoning," said Gib Veconi of the Prospect Heights Neighborhood Development Council.

The district would stretch from Flatbush Avenue nearly to Washington Avenue and from Sterling Place to Pacific Street — up to, but not including, the site of Bruce Ratner's proposed $4-billion mega-development, Atlantic Yards.

Veconi singled out the project, saying its "scale and density" would "increase the incidence of out-of-context development in Prospect Heights."

Many buildings within the proposed district have particularly deep lots — a zoning quirk that could allow voracious developers to put up large-scale buildings.

"We're all very under-built and there's a danger that as those buildings are transferred over, they can be developed into overbuilt structures, which demolish the historic character," Robert Witherwax, a member of Community Board 8, told The Brooklyn Paper.

Veconi said he is excited the long process is finally moving forward.

"Everybody spoke in support of designation, so we thought that was great," he said. "We're confident that the Landmarks Preservations Commission will take swift action and schedule a vote on designation."

The Brooklyn Paper / Ben Muessig

Tragedy at Farrell's bar

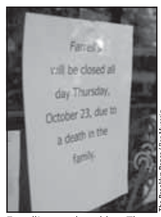
Beloved bartender commits suicide after getting fatal cancer diagnosis; customers mourn the loss

By Ben Muessig
The Brooklyn Paper

An owner of the legendary Windsor Terrace watering hole Farrell's Bar and Grill committed suicide last week — and regulars say they never saw it coming.

Daniel Mills, 67, leapt from the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge on Sunday, stunning drinkers at the Prospect Park West pub, where the Brooklyn native and Staten Island resident was known for his big smile, jovial demeanor and generous buy-backs.

Last week, Mills — known to regulars as Danny — learned that he suffered from a terminal illness, but did not tell friends or customers of the 75-year-old bar, which he had run since 1996 with two business partners.



The Brooklyn Paper / Ben Muessig

Farrell's was closed last Thursday for a memorial service.

"He was such a bubbly guy," said Sean Scaglione, 42, a regular at the bar at the corner of 16th Street, which has long been a hangout for firefighters, cops and other Windsor Terrace residents who love the 32-ounce Styrofoam cups of Bud and Bud Lite.

"He was happy-go-lucky and he always seemed like he was in a good mood — I just can't fathom how he kept everything under wraps," Scaglione added.

Farrell's was closed last Thursday so that all of the barkeeps could attend Mills's funeral.

SRO rises on Fifth Ave

By Ben Muessig
The Brooklyn Paper

Developers of a controversial South Slope SRO broke ground this week on a building that will house 48 low-income residents — including formerly homeless individuals and people with mental illnesses — in the midst of a gentrifying neighborhood.

The building, at the corner of 16th Street and Fifth Avenue, was once rejected by Borough President Markowitz on the grounds that the single-room-occupancy plan excluded low-income families. But at last Friday's groundbreaking, the Beep was on hand to praise the development not to bury it.

"The mix worked out perfectly," said Markowitz, who praised the developer, the Fifth Avenue Committee, for moving the front door from quiet 16th Street to Fifth Avenue.

When it is finished in early 2010, the building will also house low-income seniors, youths aging out of foster care, and individuals afflicted with HIV or AIDS.

The Brooklyn Paper / Ben Muessig

An SRO broke ground at 16th Street and Fifth Avenue on Tuesday. Borough President Markowitz once opposed the project but now supports it.

The Fifth Avenue Committee said the building will be "affordable housing with on-site social support" for single men and women earning less than $29,775 per year — not a shelter or a rehab clinic.

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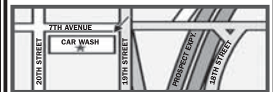

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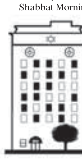
Saturday Morning Services.......................10:30 a.m.
Shabbat Morning Adult Breakfast Study......9:00 a.m.



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To East End* (Eastbound)

	MONTAUK LINE (READ DOWN; AM LIGHT, PM BOLD)	Fri PM Only	NORTH FORK LINE	Fri PM Only
DEPARTING	Park Slope - 4th Avenue & 9th Street	5:30	Park Slope	5:30
	Park Slope - 4th Avenue & Union Street	5:35	Park Slope	5:35
	Boerum Hill - Atlantic Avenue & 3rd Avenue	5:45	Boerum Hill	5:45
	B. Heights -Tillary St. between Cadman Plaza East & West	6:00	B. Heights	6:00
ARRIVING	Manorville	7:50	Tanger Outlet	8:00
	Southampton	8:15	Riverhead	8:05
	Water Mill	8:20	Aquebogue	8:10
	Bridgehampton	8:30	Jamesport	8:15
	Wainscott	8:35	Laurel	8:20
	East Hampton	8:45	Mattituck	8:25
	Amagansett	8:55	Cutchogue	8:35
	Napeague	9:10	Peconic	8:40
	Montauk	9:15	Southold	8:45
			Greenport	8:55

Brooklyn Service Eastbound **Pick-up Locations:** *1 Trip on Fridays*
1) 4th Ave. @ 9th St. - East side of 4th between 8th and 9th Streets at the M, R & F subway station entrance in front of the Church of St. Thomas Aquinas.
2) 4th Ave. @ Union St. - East side of 4th between Sackett and Union at the M, R & F subway station entrance in front of Maria's Mexican Bistro, 209 4th Ave. across from the Hess gas station.
3) Atlantic Ave. between 3rd & 4th Ave. - North side of Atlantic at bus shelter.
4) Tillary St. - Between Cadman Plaza East & West at H.J. sign near bus shelter.

Brooklyn Service Westbound **Drop-off Locations:** *1 Trip on Sundays*
1) Cadman Plaza @ Clark St. - Bus stop shelter west side of street (Subway).
2) Court St. @ Joralemon St. - At bus stop west side of street (Subway).
3) Union St. @ 4th Ave. - At bus stop south side of street.
4) Prospect Park West & 2nd St. - At bus stop across from park entrance.
5) 9th St. & 4th Ave. - Bus stop in front of St. Thomas Aquinas Church (249 9th Street.)
6) Tillary St. - Between Cadman Plaza East & West at H.J. sign near bus shelter.

* On select trips, passengers may be required to transfer in Manorville.

To Brooklyn* (Westbound)

	MONTAUK LINE (READ DOWN; AM LIGHT, PM BOLD)	Fri PM Only	Sun PM Only	NORTH FORK LINE	Sun PM Only
				Greenport	5:40
DEPARTING	Montauk	—	5:00	Southold	5:50
	Napeague	—	5:05	Peconic	5:55
	Amagansett	—	5:20	Cutchogue	6:00
	East Hampton	—	5:30	Mattituck	6:05
	Wainscott	—	5:40	Laurel	6:10
	Bridgehampton	—	5:50	Jamesport	6:15
	Water Mill	—	6:05	Aquebogue	6:20
	Southampton	2:00	6:15	Riverhead	6:25
	Manorville	—	6:40	Tanger Outlet	6:30
ARRIVING	B. Heights - Cadman Pl. & Clark St.	4:10	8:30	B. Heights	8:30
	B. Heights - Tillary St.	—	—	B. Heights	—
	B. Heights - Court St. & Joralemon St.	4:15	8:35	B. Heights	8:35
	Park Slope - Union St. & 4th Ave.	4:25	8:45	Park Slope	8:45
	Park Slope - Prospect Park W. & 2nd St.	4:30	8:50	Park Slope	8:50
	Park Slope - 9th St. & 4th Ave.	4:35	8:55	Park Slope	8:55

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Election Day • November 4th

5 shot, 1 dead in Ft. Greene salon

By Mike McLaughlin and Evan Gardner
The Brooklyn Paper

The two gunmen who killed another man and wounded four bystanders — including an off-duty cop — in a Fulton Street beauty parlor in a classic rubout on Monday afternoon remain at large, cops said on Thursday.

The broad daylight hit brought to mind the neighborhood's all-too-recent dark days, when crime and killings were common.

"It was like the Wild West," said Sivena Smith, a cashier in the Cake Man Raven bakery on Fulton Street, where the murdered man had just bought a piece of cake. "I'm just glad my appointment [in the beauty parlor] wasn't until Thursday."

Witnesses and police sources said that two men jumped from a dark SUV, possibly a Chevy Tahoe, and began shooting at a 19-year-old pedestrian who had just stepped out of the renowned bakery at around 1:30 pm.

The victim fled down the street and sought cover in the De lux Gallery, a salon, but the shooters chased him inside and killed him with a single bullet to the head. Police said he was dead on arrival at the hospital.

Four other people were hurt in the afternoon attack — two women and two men. Three were inside the barber shop, but according to an 88th Precinct source, one man was struck by an errant bullet while waiting for a bus on Fulton Street. They were taken to Bellevue and Kings County hospitals.

The store's owner was one of the victims. She was shot in the leg.

Another victim was a 41-year-old off-duty police officer getting her hair cut in the salon, which is between South Portland Avenue and South Oxford Street at 1:50 pm. The officer, who works out of the 76th Precinct stationhouse on Union Street in Carroll Gardens, was shot in the foot.

All of the wounded were in stable condition, police said.

The midday murder turned the heart of Fort Greene into a media circus, but 15 years ago, when crimes rates were much higher in this precinct, such an event would barely have registered as a blip on the city's radar.

Compared to 1993, for example, there has been 72 percent less crime this year. And, overall, murder is down more than 85 percent since that year.

The gunmen are at large, despite a major police presence on Monday that occupied two blocks of Fulton Street and shut down to all traffic and pedestrians.

There were no reports of damage from the hail of bullets. Police had located at least 12 shell casings on Fulton Street.

Councilwoman Letitia James (D–Fort Greene) was part of the crowd of 150 that gathered near the crime scene.

She said she had learned the shooting was not a random act of violence.

"It was a revenge killing," said James, who has been calling for greater police coverage in the neighborhood, which has seen an uptick in non-violent crime this year.

The salon's clients include the rapper Common, who had his hair cut a few hours before the shooting, the New York Times reported, quoting a record company spokeswoman.

On Tuesday morning there were still signs of the gunfight a day earlier. Discarded police tape was strewn along the streets and a cop car was parked directly in front the De lux Gallery. The salon's front door was ajar, but the store was not open for business.

Employees of Greene Community Pharmacy next door to the barbershop were talking about the violence.

"Who could imagine that happening around here?" said a clerk from Bedford Stuyvesant who did not want to give her name, "but it proves you're never totally safe."

The Brooklyn Paper / Tom Callan

Officers fanned out to investigate a shooting on Monday at the De lux salon on Fulton Street in the heart Fort Greene. One man was killed and four people were injured in the spree — and the gunmen remain at large.

Man & boy cuffed during home invasion

78TH PRECINCT
Park Slope

Three men forced their way into an apartment on 14th Street on Oct. 20 and ransacked the place while holding the residents at gunpoint.

One victim told cops that she heard a knock at 11 pm, and opened the door thinking it was her brother. Instead, two of the perps rushed in and pulled a gun while the third stood watch.

The thugs locked everyone — including a 5-year-old boy and a 65-year-old man — in the bathroom while they tore up the apartment, which is located between Fifth and Sixth avenues.

After more than two hours of rummaging, they left with cellphones, a camcorder, a laptop and several credit cards.

My bag, baby

A robber stole a laptop bag from a lady on Butler Street on Oct. 25. The thug approached the victim near Fourth Avenue at around 10:50 pm, pulled a black handgun and said, "Give me your bag."

She handed over the bag, which contained a $2,000 laptop, and the perp fled. *— Evan Gardner*

84TH PRECINCT
Brooklyn Heights–DUMBO Boerum Hill–Downtown

Toothy crime

A perp broke into a Montague Street dentist office over the weekend of Oct. 18, making off with a giant television set.

An employee arrived at work on Oct. 20 and found that the front cylinder lock was broken and the TV was gone from the office, which is at Clinton Street.

Dumb-o

Cops arrested a punk for mugging a DUMBO resident at the corner of Jay and York streets on Oct. 26.

The kid, 15, was with a buddy just after 7:30 pm when they found a victim, punching him in the face and knocking him to the ground.

Cops caught up with the hoodlums several blocks later and tied the one kid to the crime because of the headphones.

Slam-burglars

• A perp broke into an artist's studio on Washington Street between Front and Water streets on Oct. 20, making off with original artwork and some tools.

• A punk tried to break into an Atlantic Avenue apartment between Nevins Street and Third Avenue on Oct. 20, but was foiled when he couldn't break through the front door lock.

• An intruder broke into a Court Street apartment between Wyckoff and Warren streets on Oct. 23 and stole a black leather backpack and laptop.

• A burglar broke into an apartment on Gold Street between Water and Front streets on Oct. 23, making off with two laptops worth nearly $4,000.

Bad delivery

Two hoodlums mugged a deliveryman on Dean Street on Oct. 20, stealing his cash, cellphone and bicycle.

The thieves approached the man as he made a delivery between Bond and Hoyt streets just after 9 pm. They told him to empty his pockets, but when he refused, one perp rifled through the pocket and grabbed $60 and a cellphone.

The second perp then grabbed the man's bicycle, and they tore off down Dean Street.

— Sarah Portlock

POLICE BLOTTER
Find more online every Wednesday at **BrooklynPaper.com/blotter**

72ND PRECINCT
Windsor Terrace

Smash attack

A punk smashed through the window of a car that was parked on 16th Street on Oct. 24, but didn't actually steal anything from inside. The car's owner, who lives around the corner, parked her Toyota sedan between Seventh and Eighth avenues just after 3 am, but when she came back for it several hours later, the rear driver's side window was broken.

Smash hits

Cops arrested a man on Oct. 22 after he punched through the glass front door of a popular Fifth Avenue cafe.

The man allegedly had had too much to drink and the bartender was politely telling him to leave at around 4 am, when suddenly the man grew aggressive and punched the door. As the glass shattered, the bartender called the cops who quickly arrived at the cafe, which is between 20th and 21st streets.

— Sarah Portlock

94TH PRECINCT
Greenpoint–Williamsburg

Brazen attack

A vicious thug tried to force himself upon a 31-year-old woman in the lobby of her Wythe Avenue apartment on Oct. 20.

The cruel crook pushed his way into the building, which is between North Eighth and Ninth streets, as the victim checked her mailbox at around 6:40 pm.

Once inside, the hoodlum blocked the doorway. When the victim tried to squeeze past him to open the front door, the thug demanded cash.

"If you wanna leave, it will cost you $40," the crook said, then shoved the victim to the ground and started to unbutton his jeans.

Luckily, a neighbor walked into the lobby and scared off the vile villain.

Sick spokes-man

A criminal cyclist slashed a 31-year-old woman in the face when she tried to stop him from stealing her iPod on Oct. 25.

The pedal-pushing perp rode his bike and the sidewalk at the corner Lorimer Street and Driggs Avenue and snatched the iPod from the victim's sweater pocket at around 6:20 pm.

But before he could ride away, the victim grabbed his shirt in a desperate attempt to slow him down.

"You think you're tough?" the thug asked as he dismounted the bike.

The crook punched the woman repeatedly and cut her lips with a knife, before fleeing, cops said.

Undropped call

A crook tried to snatch a jogger's cellphone on the McCarren Park track near the corner of Bedford and Driggs avenues on Oct. 22, but an athletic witness chased the would-be-thief until cops arrived.

An onlooker gave chase and stopped the 17-year-old suspect at the corner of Bedford Avenue and North 12th Street, until police locked him up.

Sidekicks

Cops nabbed two thugs suspected of roughing up a man and stealing his Sidekick cellphone at the corner of Manhattan Avenue and Calyer Street on Oct. 19.

The muggers punched the victim in the face at around 2 am and grabbed the phone, leaving him bruised and bloody.

But police canvassed the neighborhood and locked up two suspects at the corner of Oak and Franklin streets five blocks away.

Bank robbery

A crook robbed a Manhattan Avenue bank of $1,900 on Oct. 25.

The perp entered the bank at around 12:30 pm and asked a teller for change for a $100 bill. The crook left the bank after getting the change, but he returned five minutes later to demand cash.

"This is a robbery. I'm not playing with you," the thug told a teller.

One bank employee handed the thug $850 and another forked over $1,050, before the robber fled southbound on Manhattan Avenue. *— Ben Muessig*

88TH PRECINCT
Fort Greene–Clinton Hill

Break it up

A burglar stole luxe items from a Greene Avenue apartment on Oct. 13 after breaking through the basement window.

The 47-year-old resident told police the crook snagged a new laptop, Prada bag, Nikon camera and nifty briefcase from the garden apartment between Grand and Classon avenues. He told police no one was home between 1:30 and 5:30 pm.

Short-circuited

Half of a shoplifting duo with enough video game equipment to start its own arcade was arrested at an Atlantic Avenue retailer on Oct. 22.

Store employees halted a 19-year-old caught exiting the store at 6:13 pm with seven Xbox Lives for online gaming, two top-of-the-line Xbox Live Golds and 15 controllers.

An accomplice eluded capture with unknown stolen goods from the national chain between Fort Greene Place and South Portland Avenue.

Fists to cuffs

Police arrested a man who had allegedly beaten another man working in a Flushing Avenue business on Oct. 24.

An argument escalated into a fight at 3 pm when the 33-year-old suspect bashed the 53-year-old victim in the face several times inside the commercial office between Cumberland and North Portland streets.

The victim also told police the suspect tried to take unspecified property from him.

Top o' the morn

Three thugs attacked a man on Vanderbilt Avenue on Oct. 24 to steal his iPhone.The 42-year-old victim told police the trio punched him repeatedly in the face before stealing the popular cellphone at 9:05 am between Willoughby and DeKalb avenues.

— Mike McLaughlin

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Household Advice Column

Dear Miss Clean:

I really wish to reduce my cleaning footprint, but the prices for green cleaning products are a bit ridiculous. What's a girl to do? ***Tight Wad in Prospect Heights***

Dear Tight Wad:

Relax — loosen those purse strings. You saved hundreds when you buy that "over-priced" all-purpose biodegradeable concentrated cleaner. That's right: hundreds ... cha ching, cha ching!

Let's use Dr. Bronner's, for example. One 16 oz. bottle is about $12, plus an investment of a biodegradeable 32 oz., $4 spray bottle, NYC Tap Water, and one gallon jug (recycle a milk container) can save you $875.50.

How, you ask? Pour 1/4 oz. in 1 gallon water. The whole bottle makes 64 gallons of product, or 8,192 oz. of solution, or 256 32-oz spray bottles. Compare that to paying $886.00 for all purpose ready-to-use spray cleaner ($3.50 x 256 bottles). Really, this one investment could last you a few years. You may even feel compelled to donate to a cleaning charity ... maybe the Cleaning for a Reason foundation...

Dear Miss Clean:

I love the new fresh look of stainless steel appliances, but after one year and 3 pairs of chronic sticky underage fingerprints, I've lost that glossy feeling. How can I remove the stains and restore the luster. ***Lusterless in Clinton Hill***

Dear Lusterless:

Who needs diamonds when you have Enviro-Magic Stainless Steel Cleaner? It's so good, I enforce my staff to use sun glasses after its application. Very concentrated: one spray may be all you need.

Dear Miss Clean:

Every vacuum cleaner I buy breaks within the year. Can you recommend one that is reasonably priced, dependable and has great suction? ***Gone Vacuuming in DUMBO***

Dear Gone:

My staff loves the Sanitaire Professional and Commercial Canisters, and I do too. It has great suction, telescoping wand, is HEPA filtered with AWESOME suction. Works on both floor and rug easily. It's also Carpet and Rug Institute Green Certified. However, many of my clients are raving about the Dayson Ball technology Vacuum — which also has a HEAP sealed filter.

Wishing you much luck in your endeavors!

MsClean@CleanGreenMaids.org
718-383-0875

Ft. Greene fest will honor the 'forgotten' heroes

By Mike McLaughlin
The Brooklyn Paper

One Pulitzer Prize-winning author has replaced another as the marquee name on the upcoming centennial for the Prison Ship Martyrs Memorial in Fort Greene Park.

Edwin Burrows, half of the team that wrote the mammoth "Gotham," will give the keynote address at the celebration on Saturday, Nov. 15, and fills the slot which had been reserved for David McCullough, the literary lion who penned such popular histories as "1776" and "The Great Bridge."

McCullough had been a natural for the speaking gig because he's about as famous as a historian can get — and he has said the Doric pillar honoring the 11,600 American prisoners who died on British prison boats during the Revolutionary War is "one of the most sacred sites in America."

(The Parks Department told The Brooklyn Paper that McCullough's publicist did not respond to the department's invitation. And, indeed, neither McCullough nor his publicist responded to phone calls from The Brooklyn Paper.)

But Burrows has street cred on the topic, too — maybe even more than McCullough.

In his latest work, "Forgotten Patriots," he turns his attention to American prisoners of war from the fight for independence, which includes sections on the Battle of Brooklyn and the struggle to erect a lasting memorial for POWs who died aboard Tory prison ships in Wallabout Bay.

The 100-year-old Doric column (above left) in Fort Greene Park honors the 12,000 men who died on British prison ships (like the aptly named ship, above right) during the Revolutionary War. The original crypt (above) has fallen into disrepair, but is being hastily restored, hopefully in time for the Nov. 15 centennial event.

Yet the prison ships don't strike a historical chord the way the Alamo, Pearl Harbor or Gettysburg do.

Burrows, also a professor at Brooklyn College, said the high mortality rate of POWs in abysmal conditions strengthened the resolve to fight the Redcoats.

"It was well known and it was tremendously important in helping Americans come to the conclusion that there was no possibility of reconciliation [with England]," Burrows told The Brooklyn Paper. "It convinced people that independence was right and necessary."

The memory of their deaths ebbed and flowed over the years. In the 1840s, a young Walt Whitman editorialized in the pages of the long-defunct Brooklyn Daily Eagle for a proper memorial and resting place for the remains of the prisoners, but it was not until the turn of the 20th century that a combination of public and private money was garnered to build the Stanford White-designed column.

The 1908 ceremony was so important that rotund President-elect William Taft addressed a crowd of tens of thousands.

Martyrs Memorial Events

There are lots of events scheduled to mark the centennial of the Prison Ships Martyrs Monument. For info about all events, call (718) 596-0899 or visit www.centennial2008.org.

FRIDAY NOV. 14

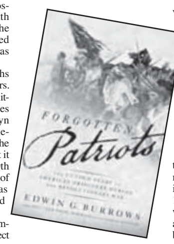
Fort Greene Park centennial reception. Museum of Contemporary African Diasporan Arts (80 Hanson Place between South Portland Avenue and South Elliott Place in Fort Greene). 5:30 pm.

SATURDAY NOV. 15

Revolutionary War reenactment. Fort Greene Park (Enter park at the corner of Dekalb Avenue and Washington Place in Fort Greene). 10 am–3 pm.

Community Day. Fort Greene Park. Noon–3:30 pm.

Speeches by dignitaries, including keynote speaker Edwin Burrows. Fort Greene Park.



Fewer are expected next week — and neither of the presidential candidates is expected to make a post-Election Day victory appearance (GOP standardbearer John McCain has already turned organizers down, though the campaign of Barac Obama is still considering the invitation).

But future presidents or not, the event will include a truly monumental event: the re-lighting of the eternal flame atop the 15-story column (though, one wonders, why something billed as an "eternal flame" needs to be re-ignited at all).

Sculptor and Brooklyn's 'Mr. Brownstone' is dead at 79

By Liza Eckert
for The Brooklyn Paper

Santo Matarazzo, who lived on the same Carroll Gardens block since arriving from Italy in the 1950s — and then set about fixing the neighborhood brownstone by brownstone — died on Oct. 23 of cancer. The sculptor, artist, handyman, landlord and beloved neighbor was 79.

When Matarazzo arrived from Italy, he brought little else but a work ethic and an artistic eye, which he promptly put to good use in his first job as a commercial artist building exhibitions at places like Ellis Island, said his daughter, Enza Bloisi. He bought his building, on Union Street between Henry and Clinton streets, for $6,500.

"He was a catalyst in the revitalization of the neighborhood," his daughter said.

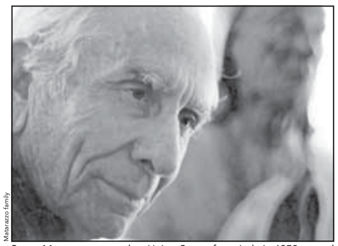
By his own hard work, he showed others how rundown buildings could be transformed into classic townhouses.

"This was like a slum," Matarazzo once told the New York Times. "Everybody was running away from here. And I say: 'Why are they leaving? These are beautiful buildings.' "

When old age made his renovation work difficult, the so-called "Mr. Brownstone" turned to sculpture. At his death, his artwork filled the home he shared with his wife, Lucia.

Matarazzo did much of the work on this house himself; installing intricate tiles and his signature plaster moldings.

Nearly every available space is occupied by his art. The walls remain full of his paintings, which include a self-portrait, a picture of Jesus, and a Sicilian seascape dated 1952 — a reference, Lucia Matarazzo said, of the year her husband left his homeland.



Matarazzo family

Santo Matarazzo moved to Union Street from Italy in 1952 — and promptly became a beloved neighborhood figure who restored brownstones and churned out sculptures of famous Americans (including his last piece, a bust of Barack Obama).

Other plaster sculptures honored famous or historical figures such as Martin Luther King Jr., Bill Clinton, Muhammad Ali, and, most recently, Barack Obama, the presidential candidate for whom Matarazzo intended to vote.

"He was a true artist and a Renaissance man," added Maria-Ray Guido of the Guido Funeral Home, and also a friend.

The Matarazzos had a second home in Mastic Beach, on Long Island. Neighbor Stacey Carey said that Santo brought that neighborhood to life as well.

"When May rolled around, my daughter and I would check for signs of activity at his house, waiting excitedly for his and Lucia's arrival," she said. "They're wonderful people."

Matarazzo's contribution to the town lives on in the form of a sculpture of William Floyd, a Long Island native who signed the Declaration of Independence. Matarazzo made the piece on his own.

"He created it as a message," said Carey. "The message was that we have become too caught up in so many things that we really don't get to know and enjoy what is right in front of us."

Another such "message" was the bust he made of King, which he offered to install in the plaza in front of Borough Hall. Perhaps now, the offer will be accepted.

Matarazzo is survived by his wife, Lucia; and two daughters, Enza Bloisi and Tina Matarazzo.

Funeral services were on Sunday, Oct. 26 at Green-Wood Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting donations to Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity (344 E. 146th St., The Bronx, NY 10451).

The Brooklyn Paper / Shravan Vidyarthi

Lucia Matarazzo shows off one of her husband Santo's pieces, a mosaic of his family.

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The Brooklyn Paper PARENT

KIDS • SCHOOL • STYLE • TEENS • CAMPS • MUSIC

Dad's gone, but his car is now here

By Louise Crawford

Remember "My Mother the Car," that wacky 1966 show, which starred Jerry Van Dyke as a guy whose deceased mother was reincarnated as a car?

Well, Smartmom has her late father's Subaru Impreza now and it reminds her of that classic. Sort of.

It's not like her dad — Groovy Grandpa — has been reincarnated as the car or that his spirits are in there, but there is something. When Smartmom is in the car, she feels a connection with her dad and the way he did things. Little discoveries:

• Oh, that's where he kept that card he used to get into the garage!

• Why did he put the tire gauge in that dashboard compartment? It makes so much noise when it rolls around.

• Why are all those books he bought at a library sale in the back?

Truly, the car that really epitomizes Groovy Grandpa is the light blue Austin Healey, that was the family car from the time Smartmom was born until she was about 8.

Now that was a great car. Manhattan Granny and Groovy Grandpa bought it on a trip to England in 1957, during the "Two for the Road" phase of their marriage. In pictures from those days, Manhattan Granny looks very Jean Seberg with her short, dark hair and Groovy Grandpa is awfully handsome with his neatly trimmed beard and tweed jacket. The two of them drove to Italy and later shipped the car home to New York.

After a while, young Smartmom and Diaper Diva got too big to fit in the tiny back seat of the sporty, four-seat convertible, so her father sold it.

Groovy Grandpa didn't have a car for years after that (they always rented). But when he got a house upstate, he bought a few cars over the years.

Finally, the Subaru Impreza.

On Aug. 19, just weeks before Groovy Grandpa died, Smartmom was driving out of the driveway of the house she and Hepcat rent in Sag Harbor very, very slowly. Suddenly, there was a Land Rover in the rear window, small at first, then bigger and then huge.

Then, crash.

The right rear tail light of the Subaru was SMASHED. The Land Rover had no damage whatsoever. It was like hitting a brick.

The car looked awful and Smartmom cried like a teenager, "My dad is going to kill me." All the way home on the Long Island Expressway, she was in a panic about telling Groovy Grandpa.

The next day, he started to ask questions and worried about his insurance. He wanted her to get some estimates for repairs. When Smartmom called from a Fourth Avenue collision place with a rough estimate off $2,000, he got angry.

"Are you kidding me? Leave. Go to another place."

Hepcat was out of town at the time, and Groovy Grandpa told Smartmom to wait for him to get back (Groovy Grandpa was a bit of a sexist about women drivers).

"Let him take care of it," Groovy Grandpa told her.

Smartmom hated to bother her father with the details of this silly fender bender when he wasn't feeling well. But on some level, it was a welcome distraction for both of them. Something to talk about other than symptoms, medications, and chemotherapy. And yeah, they had a couple of fights about it. He was a little patronizing.

"Why were you driving the car anyway?" he said. "Your sister is a much better driver."

Not long after that, he went into the hospital for two weeks, where they talked about it a couple of times. Her father died at home on Sept. 7.

Smartmom couldn't even think about the car for a while. Finally, she called the insurance company and they sent an adjuster to look at the car. The guy called and said that the car was a "total loss."

Total loss. Smartmom knew all about loss. Her father was gone.

Of course, the insurance guy merely meant that the car exceeded its value. He offered her a check and said that the company would be happy to take it away.

Something felt wrong. Smartmom wanted to keep the car and Hepcat believed that they could have it fixed for less money. Finally, a collision place on Sackett Street called Gino's was able to fix the car for $750.

So Smartmom picked it up and was happy to have her car — her father's car — back. She has all sorts of plans about where she wants to go — a cross-country road trip; an upstate cruise to visit Gluten Free and Dadu on a whim; trips to Costco and Fairway — but for now, it sits there on Third Street.

Her father the car.

It makes her happy just to see it.

FAMILY CALENDAR

Compiled by Susan Rosenthal Jay

SATURDAY, NOV. 1

9 am: DUMBO Kite Flying Society meets. Starter kites provided. Park at the foot of Main Street at Plymouth Street in DUMBO. **Free**. Call Galapagos Art Space (718) 222-8500 for info.

11 am and 2 pm: Art-making class for kids with an adult companion. $8, children 12 and under free. Brooklyn Museum (200 Eastern Pkwy. at Washington Avenue in Crown Heights). Call (718) 638-5000 for info.

12:30 pm and 2:30 pm: "Hansel and Gretel." Puppetworks (338 Sixth Ave., at Fourth Street in Park Slope). $7 kids, $8 adults. Call (718) 965-3391 for info.

2 pm: Learn about worms and how they live underground. Brooklyn Botanic Garden (1000 Washington Ave. in Crown Heights). **Free**. Call (718) 623-7220 for info.

SUNDAY, NOV. 2

12:30 pm and 2:30 pm: "Hansel and Gretel. See Sat., Nov. 1.

MONDAY, NOV. 3

4 pm: Shorts featuring the European comic character Barbapapa. Cobble Hill Cinemas (265 Court St., at Butler Street in Cobble Hill). $6.50. Call (718) 624-3748 for info.

TUESDAY, NOV. 4

11 am: Sing-along. The Moxie Spot (81 Atlantic Ave., at Hicks Street in Brooklyn Heights). **Free**. Call (718) 923-9710 for info.

SATURDAY, NOV. 8

11 am and 2 pm: Art-making class for kids. See Sat., Nov. 1.

SUNDAY, NOV. 9

2-4 pm: Drop-in program offers leafy arts and crafts activities. $8, $4 seniors and students, children under 12 free. Brooklyn Botanic Garden (1000 Washington Ave. at Eastern Parkway in Crown Heights). Call (718) 623-7200 for info.

4 pm: The Funkey Monkeys perform and act out stories. $5. St. Thomas Aquinas Church (249 Ninth St., near Fourth Avenue in Park Slope). Call (718) 768-9471 for info.

To list your event, e-mail information to Calendar@BrooklynPaper.com.

Nobody asked me...

It is a time-honored tradition in the puppet and mime world to take stock around Halloween. So without further ado, here is my annual "Nobody asked me, but…" column, a format first invented by my great-grandfather, Thurston Dooley, in his seminal pieces in "Let's Marionette!" magazine in the 1920s. Those were dark days for puppeteering, so Ol' Chicory certainly had plenty to write about. So do I;

By Thurston Dooley III

Nobody asked me, but ...

… the people who put together the haunted walk in Prospect Park every year on the weekend before Halloween do a heck of a job. Now, granted, my 80-something-year-old eyes have long been trained to see things only the way a 6-year-old's would, but this year's Headless Horseman was the best I'd ever seen. It would've made my dad, Thurston Dooley II, so proud. "Duo Dooley," whose reputation in the puppetry and mime world was destroyed in the 1950s when he was wrongly accused of advocating "strip miming," was actually an early proponent of reviving the ancient art of mime by getting its practitioners out of their black-and-white-striped prisons and into more fluid, more mobile, more spontaneous situations.

… I'll be glad when the election is over. Now, I'm as liberal as the next guy (provided the next guy is Leon Trotsky), but I've been no fan of how parents in what I call the "Babble Belt" (Park Slope through Boerum Hill to Brooklyn Heights) have been forcing their political beliefs on their kids. Sure, an Obama bake sale is a nice way to get the kids involved, but the other day, a 6-year-old accosted me and accused me of supporting McCain (presumably because I am old, stiff and, yes, given to flashbacks of my forced labor as a puppeteer in a Korean prison camp). There's nothing wrong with giving kids an overview of the issues, but when a 6-year-old is telling me of McCain's "secret plan" to bomb Iran, I think we've gone a bit far.

… kids these days are little whippersnappers, let me tell you. I received a press release the other day (a press release!) about a record-release party for a band calling itself T-Rox. The album, "Burnt Marshmallow," is the product of 7-year-olds Ben Everett-Lane and Max Kessler. The duo sent me their CD, which I promptly converted to 8-track so I could listen to it — and I was blown away! The song "TV Rots your Brain" is an instant classic. The record-release party is on Nov. 1 and I was told there would be veggie booty.

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GO BROOKLYN

(718) 834-9350 *The Brooklyn Paper's essential guide to the Borough of Kings* November 1, 2008

Hedge Hodgman

Daily Show comic and author is the king of fake facts

By Gersh Kuntzman
The Brooklyn Paper

Oh, dear reader, I wish that I were you because were I you, I would now be reading an interview with a minor television celebrity instead of doing what I was actually doing before I became you, which was writing the article about the minor television celebrity that you are now reading.

But let's not get ahead of ourselves[1]. The minor television celebrity is none other than John Hodgman, the humble[2] Park Sloper who has achieved his renowned through two hilarious, and completely fake, trivia books ("The Areas of My Expertise" and the new "More Information than You Require"), regular appearances as the resident expert on "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart" and a bit of trifle as the physical embodiment of Windows-based computers in a series of Apple commercials that have been viewed by more than 26 billion people worldwide[3].

Not that Hodgman resents those Apple ads, of course. They are almost entirely responsible for his current renown, which includes a nationwide book tour to support his new fake book, money to support the lavish lifestyle to which he has become accustomed and spontaneous conversations with people everywhere he goes. All this for a former literary agent and one-time cheesemonger[4].

"Of course I knew that the Apple ads would change my life," Hodgman told GO Brooklyn[5]. "Being on TV has a spellcasting power over people. It has done dramatic things for book sales, but also for my subway-riding experience. People come up to me and say, 'Hello,' even though I do not know them. It's very flattering, but it's not something I expected as a 37-year-old freelance magazine writer and father of two."

Oh, but he is too humble! John Hodgman may be the only man in the history of magazine writing to do a story on "Battlestar Galactica" and then later appear in an episode of "Battlestar Galactica."[6]

Again, you can thank his minor TV celebrity for that guest spot.

"I called up my agent and asked him to get me on the show and, much to my surprise, they said yes," Hodgman said about his cameo in an episode that will air in January (all he is allowed to say is that he plays a doctor). "I had a wonderful time, but being on that set confirmed for me that I truly am a creepy 'Battlestar Galactica' stalker."

He flatters himself! What John Hodgman actually is is simply the nation's finest aggregator of absolutely false trivia[7]. The unsuspecting must be reminded that flipping to any random page is dangerous, as the "facts" in the "book" are not "facts" as we commonly define them (by which I mean that they are actually true). Of course, there's a good reason for this.

"This book is unique in the desk reference game insofar as the amazing true facts within it are almost entirely false," Hodgman writes on page 250 (the pages in the new book begin at 237, where work left off). "REALITY, while generally PROBABLE, is not always INTERESTING."

So that is how, for example, Hodgman can present a plausible story about how the ice-cream cone was invented in Brooklyn by Norman Mailer with an original recipe that included milk, eggs and punching. Additionally, in a section about the American presidency, Hodgman explains, equally plausibly, that Teddy Roosevelt initially only allowed moose to enter his "Bull Moose" party because "Roosevelt admired their solid, stubborn nature, their hatred of trusts and their ability to LEGALLY HAVE SEX WITH FEMALE MOOSE."[8]

So what have we learned, dear reader[9]? Again, we turn to Hodgman for advice. How should other talented people who lack his as-

*See **MORE** on page 9*

The Brooklyn Paper / Julia Rosenberg

BOOKS

"More Information than You Require" is available at Book-Court [163 Court St., between Dean and Pacific streets in Cobble Hill, (718) 875-3677] and Community Bookstore [143 Seventh Ave., between Carroll Street and Garfield Place in Park Slope, (718) 783-3075].

Find the footnotes on page 9

Hodgman's real fake Brooklyn

Here are some Brooklyn-centric excepts from Park Slope author and not-so-minor TV celebrity John Hodgman's new compendium of human knowledge, "More Information Than You Require" (Dutton Books):

Brooklyn Inventions

THE SWEAT HOG

We now use this term as shorthand for any Brooklyn public-high-school student who exclusively fraternizes with kids outside his own racial, class or ethnic grouping. (Of course, this does not happen. But wouldn't it be hilarious if it did? And what if you had to teach a group of such kids? And they were constantly climbing in your window and staring at your wife and baby? They are going to make a movie about this, mark my words.) But back in the old days of Brooklyn Ethnic Hill neighborhood, a "sweat hog" actually referred to a hearty pork dumpling boiled in beef sweat.

STICKBALL

Most agree it was first played on the sepia-colored streets of the Nostalgia Park neighborhood. Using only rudimentary equipment, stickball's rules were fluid and varied widely from block to block. The only agreed constant was that each team must field at least two newsies; one bully who ends up having a heart of gold; one hapless fat kid; one sweat hog; and one feeble, dreamy, sickly child who would not actually participate in the game but instead would write Broadway plays about it later.

THE ICE-CREAM CONE

Brooklyn invented beer. But when the Germans stole all of Brooklyn's beer and hid it in Wisconsin, Brooklyn was left with a problem: What to do with all the beer cones? Beer had been enjoyed in both waffle and wafer cones in Brooklyn for centuries. Now, with the surplus of cones, a scrappy, picturesque, cobblestoned Brooklynite named Norman Mailer came up with a bright idea. Why not freeze egg creams and serve them in the cones as a Coney Island treat and then punch people? After a while, this simple recipe was refined: Milk and eggs were added, punching was reduced, and the "ice-cream cone" was born.

BOOKS

Holy Moses!

A Brooklyn Heights rabbi has obviously learned a lesson from his faith's comedians — his new book about the economy (of all things!) certainly has great timing.

Rabbi Aaron Raskin's book, "The Rabbi and the CEO: The Ten Commandments for 21st Century Leaders," hits bookstores this month, just as the economy was imploding.

But not to worry; Raskin and co-author Thomas Zweifel, the CEO of a consulting firm, argue that rediscovering business ethics is as simple as remembering Moses, who cried out to God and was told, basically, "Just do it." The lesson? "Kvetching was not an option," Raskin said. In other words, stop whining.

Raskin, the spiritual leader of Congregation B'nai Avraham on Remsen Street in Brooklyn Heights, and Zweifel say that recent figures — former GE CEO Jack Welch and just about everyone affiliated with Enron, for example — lack that kind of leadership.

That said, no one religious belief is required, but such leadership is embodied by the Jewish customs of tzedakah (charity), emet (truth) and no kvetching (kvetching).

"The Rabbi and the CEO: The Ten Commandments for 21st Century Leaders," is available through www.selectbooks.com. — *Sarah Portlock*

DINING

Tiki your fancy

Spencer Rothschild has a dream to make the corner of Fifth Avenue and President Street in Park Slope into a "Latin American beach resort."

Step one has been accomplished now that Rothschild has transformed an old storage space into Cabana Bar, a 10-table, five-barstool, rum-heavy joint that looks airlifted from Baja.

The Brooklyn Paper / Julia Rosenberg

Bleached white walls, a glass ceiling and a thatched grass palapa over the bar create the mood — one that is greatly enhanced by a Margarita, Cuba Libre or a Bonfire Bowl (pictured with bartender Carlos Baptista) and some oyster empanadas ($8.95) and ancho chili fried calamari ($6.95).

"The most satisfying thing has been to have people say, 'Wow, it really looks like a cabana,'" said Rothschild, who made his reputation with Calle Ocho in Manhattan but is known in Brooklyn for Barrio on Seventh Avenue.

Next up, Playa, which will take over the space once occupied by the short-lived Lookout Hill at the corner of President and Fifth.

Cabana Bar [648 President St., between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Park Slope. No phone.]

— *Gersh Kuntzman*

MUSIC

Hear this!

For a handful of hungry local rockers, the key to indie superstardom might be a classic, high-school-auditorium-style battle of the bands.

Starting on Nov. 6, more than 30 unsigned groups will duke it out over six nights at the Greenpoint Avenue club Red Star in the first "Brooklyn Rocks!" festival.

"These bands are all the cream of the crop of up-and-coming acts," said promoter Lee Sobel, who organized the series, which will feature the electroclash act Jen Urban and the Box (pictured), the classic stylings of Bryce Ryness, and the raucous Sweet as Ether, among other bands.

Each band will have 40 minutes to strut its stuff during the showcase, and as many as nine acts will take the stage each night.

Performances will be all over the rock/pop/grunge/country/electronica map, so judges will score the bands based on the only quantifiable part of live music — the applause.

"It's basically a popularity contest," Sobel said.

Brooklyn Rocks! starts at 7 pm on Nov. 6–8 and Nov. 13–15 at Red Star (37 Greenpoint Ave. at West Street in Greenpoint). $10. For information, call (718) 349-0149.

— *Ben Muessig*

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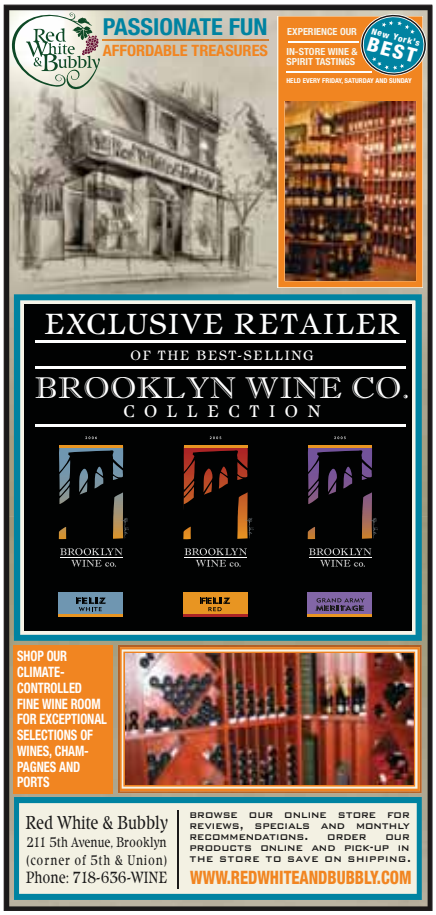

WHERE TO GO

EDITORS' PICKS

SATURDAY
November 1

Modern Mozart

Love hasn't changed much in 300 years — and the latest evidence comes from Brooklyn Repertory Opera's "The Marriage of Figaro." This timeless story of politics, sex and scandal, which opens tonight, might have been ripped from today's headlines — which makes for a fun night at the opera.

3:30 pm. Brooklyn Lyceum [227 Fourth Ave., at Union Street in Park Slope, (866) 469-2687]. $20. Runs through Nov. 16.

SUNDAY
November 2

Sex muffins

It has been wisely said that the two basic necessities of life are brunch and sex toys — so, thankfully, the staff of Babeland has finally put them in one place. Swing by the Bergen Street adult toy store to meet the staff, fondle the wares and nosh treats from Blue Sky Bakery. Where else can you get a coffee, a scone and a Maverick penis sleeve in one place?

Noon. Babeland Brooklyn [462 Bergen Street, between Fifth and Sixth Avenues in Park Slope, (718) 638-3820]. Free.

TUESDAY
November 4

Rock the vote

Toast the regime change (or, if the unthinkable happens, drown your sorrows) at many locales, including Southpaw, Union Hall and Barbes in Park Slope, Galapagos in DUMBO and Jalopy in Red Hook.

9 pm. Southpaw [125 Fifth Ave. at St. Johns Place, (718) 230-0236]; Union Hall [702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue, (718) 638-4400]; Barbes [376 Ninth St. near Sixth Avenue, (347) 422-0248]; Galapagos [16 Main St., at Water Street, (718) 222-8500]; Jalopy [315 Columbia St. at Woodhull Street, (718) 395-3214]. Free.

THURSDAY
November 6

The new Walt

Jonathan Lethem's works, like "Motherless Brooklyn" and the homoerotic, marijuana-fest "Fortress of Solitude," might not have been written the way Walt Whitman would have done it, but Lethem is kicking off the Walt Whitman Writers Series today. He'll also take questions (question one: "So, you think you're the new Whitman?")

4 pm. St. Francis College [180 Remsen St., between Clinton and Court Streets in Brooklyn Heights]. Free.

FRIDAY
November 7

Band battle

The annual "Brooklyn Rocks!" battle of the bands has 15 groups competing this weekend and next. If you're a fan of unsigned bands (and who isn't?), this is your World Series, your Olympics and your Nathan's hot-dog-eating contest all rolled into one. Next Thursday, our favorite band, Ayatollah Fancy and Thursday Night All Stars (pictured), competes.

7 pm. Also Nov. 6, 8, 13, 14. Red Star [37 Greenpoint Ave., between Franklin and West streets in Greenpoint, (718) 349-0149]. $10.

NINE DAYS IN BROOKLYN

Compiled by Susan Rosenthal Jay

SAT, NOV. 1

OUTDOORS

BIRDING INTRO: Noon–1:30 pm. Prospect Park Audubon Center [enter park at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue, (718) 287-3400]. **Free**.

PERFORMANCE

HISTORICAL DRAMA, "CAMP LOGAN": Drama about the infamous Houston Riots of 1917. $35. 3 pm and 7:30 pm. Kumble Theater of Performing Arts at Long Island University [Flatbush Avenue between DeKalb Avenue and Willoughby Street in Downtown, (718) 488-1624].

SHOW, "SEX AS OUTRAGEOUS AND HUMOROUS": Provocateur Suip Shirey and others explore humor, sex and outrage. $15. 5-8:30 pm. Galapagos Art Space [16 Main St. corner of Water Street in DUMBO, (718) 222-8500].

HAUNTED HOTEL: Theme park-quality Halloween happening. Theaterworks actors act out skeletons, gypsies, pirates and ghosts. $6, $4 students. 6-9 pm. Not appropriate for very young children. Voorhees Theater at New York City College of Technology [186 Jay St., north of Tillary Street in Downtown, (718) 260-5109].

PLAY, "DARWIN'S MEDITATION": Sympho NYC explores the parallels between the lives of Darwin and Lincoln. $20, $35. 7:30 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music [651 Fulton St. between Ashland and Rockwell Places in Fort Greene, (718) 638-4100].

THEATER, "MEETING WITH BODHISATTVA": Buddhist insight remade in rhythm featuring drumming, martial arts, chanting and dance. $20, $35, $45. 7:30 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music [30 Lafayette Ave. between St. Felix Street and Ashland Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100].

PLAY, "LIKE YOU LIKE IT": A musical adaptation of Shakespeare's "As You Like It." $18, $14 seniors and children 12 and under. 8 pm. Gallery Players [199 14th St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Park Slope, (212) 352-3101].

PLAY, "LORD OXFORD BRINGS YOU THE SECOND AMERICAN REVOLUTION, LIVE!": $18. 8 pm. The Brick [575 Metropolitan Ave near Lorimer Street in Williamsburg, (212) 362-3101].

POETRY AND MUSIC: Soul, hip hop, rock plus poetry. $8. 8 pm. Solomon's Porch Cafe [307 Stuyvesant Ave. corner of Halsey Street in Bed-Stuy, (718) 919-8001].

OPERA, "THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO": Brooklyn Repertory Opera's version of the Mozart classic. $20, $10 seniors and students. 3:30 pm. Brooklyn Lyceum Theater [227 Fourth Ave. corner of Union Street in Park Slope, (866) 469-2687].

CONTEMPORARY MUSIC: $35, $15 students. 8 pm. Bargemusic [Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street at the East River, (718) 624-2083].

TOPS OF THE POPS: Cabaret program features the Rhapsody Players. $20, $15 seniors and children. 8 pm. St. John's Church [99th Street and Ft. Hamilton Parkway in Fort Hamilton, (718) 907-3490].

PHOTO/KEET

Big rig: Asia Argento's 2004 film, "The Heart Is Deceitful Above All Things," with Argento, Peter Fonda and a Mack truck, will unspool on Tuesday, Nov. 4 and Wednesday, Nov. 5 at BAM.

OTHER

READING BY POET LAUREATES ROBERT PINSKY AND LOUISE GLUCK: 3 pm. James Dinnerstein's studio [1205 Manhattan Ave., near Ash Street in Greenpoint]. For info, www.poetrysociety.org. **Free**.

READING BY JUNOT DIAZ: The author of "The Brief and Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao" will appear. 4 pm. Brooklyn Public Library's Central branch [Grand Army Plaza at Eastern Parkway in Park Slope, (718) 230-2100]. **Free**.

BEADED JEWELRY: Beginner class for those who never touched a hook before. $80. 6:30-8:30 pm. Gumbo [493 Atlantic Ave. between Nevins and Third streets in Boerum Hill, (718) 855-7808].

CASSEROLE CRAZY: Show off your hearty and comforting casseroles during the annual competition at Brooklyn Label. Contest is on Monday, Nov. 10 at 7:30 pm. Pre-registration necessary and closes on Nov. 3. Call for info. (347) 446-6726 or email: casserolecrazy@gmail.com.

SUN, NOV. 2

OUTDOORS

GREEN-WOOD CEMETERY: Celebrate All Souls' Day with a Haitian Rara procession with trumpet band Dja-Rara. 3:30 pm. Meet at N/R subway stop at 25th Street and Fourth Avenue. Call (718) 625-0080 for info. **Free**.

PERFORMANCE

PLAY, "LIKE YOU LIKE IT": 3 pm. See Sat., Nov. 1.

HISTORICAL DRAMA, "CAMP LOGAN": 3 pm. See Sat., Nov. 1.

OPERA: 3:30 pm. See Sat., Nov. 1.

TECHNO MUSIC: Experiment in musical technology. $50, $25 students. 4 pm. Bargemusic [Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street at the East River in Dumbo, (718) 624-2083].

OTHER

FLEA MARKET: 9 am-5 pm. St. Finbar's Church [Bath Avenue and Bay 20th Street in Bay Ridge, (718) 236-3312].

READING: "Recovery: Imagining America After Bush." 11 am. Brooklyn Ethical Culture Society [53 Prospect Park West at First Street across from Prospect Park, (718) 768-2972]. **Free**.

BABELAND BRUNCH: Enjoy coffee, muffins … and sex toys. Noon. Call for info. Babeland Brooklyn [462 Bergen St. between Flatbush and Fifth avenues in Park Slope, (718) 638-3820].

WINTER BLUES: Narrated wintertime walk by a licensed psychotherapist. 1 pm. Brooklyn Botanic Garden [1000 Washington Ave., at Eastern Parkway in Crown Heights, (718) 623-7220]. **Free**.

SCREENING, "BIKE THE VOTE": Documentary follows the mission of Bike the Vote, a non-partisan campaign to register, educate and motivate people to take part in democracy through voting. 7 pm. Galapagos Art Space [16 Main St. at Water Street in DUMBO, (718) 222-8500]. **Free**.

MON, NOV. 3

ELECTION TALK: Black Solidarity Day event with Dr. Horace Campbell, professor of African American Studies. 10 am-6 pm. New York City College of Technology [300 Jay St. at Johnson Street in Downtown, (718) 260-5205]. **Free**.

FILM, "THE SONG OF THE SCARLET FLOWER": $11, $7.50 seniors and kids 12 and under. 6:50 pm, 9:15 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music [30 Lafayette Ave. between Ashland Place and St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100].

TUES, NOV. 4

Election Day

PLAY, "LORD OXFORD BRINGS YOU THE SECOND AMERICAN REVOLUTION, LIVE!": 8 pm. See Sat., Nov. 1.

YOGA WORKOUT: Wellness Works. $20 drop-in. 11:30 am-12:20 pm. Gumbo [393 Atlantic Ave. near Bond Street in Boerum Hill, (718) 233-3897]. For info, www.wellnessworkshealth.com.

PARENTS ROCK: Beginning guitar class for parents who want to learn to play. $180. 7-8:30 pm. Gumbo [493 Atlantic Ave. between Nevins and Third streets in Boerum Hill, (718) 855-7808].

ELECTION PARTY: Obama-Fabulous party. $10. 8 pm. Galapagos Art Space

See **9 DAYS** on page 10

CIVIC CALENDAR

SATURDAY, NOV. 1

Electronics recycling. Bring all your old (though still perfectly usable) electronic equipment. 10 am–4 pm. PS 29 (Henry Street at Baltic Street in Cobble Hill). Call (718) 643-3027 for info.

TUESDAY, NOV. 4

Election Day. Call (212) VOTE-NYC (868-3692) to find your polling place.

76th Precinct Community Council. Monthly meeting. 76th Precinct stationhouse (191 Union St., between Henry and Hicks streets in Carroll Gardens), 7:30 pm. Call (718) 834-3211.

THURSDAY, NOV. 6

Park Slope Civic Council. Monthly meeting. New York Methodist Hospital (Sixth Street between Seventh and Eighth avenues in Park Slope), 7 pm. Call (718) 832-8227 for info.

Friends of Carroll Park. Monthly meeting. The Park House (Smith Street between Carroll and President streets), 7:30 pm. E-mail friendsofcarrollpark@yahoo.com for info.

To list an event in the Civic Calendar, e-mail Newsroom@BrooklynPaper.com

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Revolution blues

Lord Oxford's war play is one big misfire

By Sarah Portlock
The Brooklyn Paper

In most cases, if an actor or play frustrates you, he or it is doing its job. The last thing you want, after all, is to sit there, bored and unaffected.

Were that the only criterion, "Lord Oxford Brings You the Second American Revolution, Live!," on stage now at the Brick Theater in Williamsburg, would be a big hit.

But this political-satire-meets-musical comedy show isn't frustrating for the right reasons; it's frustrating because it's not very good.

The play — a variety-show-within-a-show — is set in the present day, that is if the last 232 years never actually happened and the British had won the Revolutionary War, freed the slaves and empowered native Americans, marginalizing the colonists to menial jobs and vaudeville.

Playwright Robert Honeywell has described the play as "Democracy in America" meets "Alice in Wonderland" meets "Cabaret" — but if you aren't a history buff, you'll probably get lost in the rapid-fire exposition and in the characters' personal stories (which they sing, by the way).

The plot is surreal to say the least, but it only gets more confusing to figure out what, exactly, is happening.

The audience (the real audience) is actually in the theater for the "taping" of a live television show within the play.

The show's host, Lord Oxford (Honeywell) spoke directly to the audience, and at several points, his sidekick, Patty O'Pattycake (Audrey Crabtree), socialized with viewers. At one especially uncomfortable point in the show, she stretched across the laps in our row and insisted that we pat her and comfort her.

Audience participation is always a hit or miss, as some members of the paying crowd don't enjoy it when they become part of the action. Be warned.

Lord Oxford and Patty are actually buffoons, a type of jester-like clowning in which bright face paint, ugly-on-purpose costuming and extreme personalities are part of the act.

By that standard, they do exemplary work. But that distinction is not immediately clear to the audience, and so their over-the-top acting is instead curious. It isn't clear why, exactly, the characters are so overly dramatic as they pull out all the stops.

To everyone's credit, the six actors and actresses never break character, as if they adopted their personas long before the audience was seated and will retain them well after the show's end.

Writing historical comedy with political satire that includes original music is very hard to do well, but when a production tries to include too much of everything into too short of a production, that original plan collapses inward.

In "Lord Oxford," there's too much going on: plot arcs, character development, back story, history lessons or what exactly is happening in the present day with freed slaves, marginalized colonists, and something called the R.E.A., or Royal Eastern American colonies.

The audience can follow along only for so long, and then things just get exasperating.

On a positive note, however, the three-piece orchestra sits on the stage, and it is quite fun to watch the live concert of an accordion, bass and piano.

THEATER

"**Lord Oxford**" runs through Nov. 22 at the Brick Theater (575 Metropolitan Ave., between Union Avenue and Lorimer Street in Williamsburg). Tickets are $18. Visit www.bricktheater.com or call (718) 907-6189 for info.

Ken Stein / Runs With Scissors Photography

Pow!: Alyssa Simon as Nataliya in "Lord Oxford Brings You the Second American Revolution, Live!" at the Brick Theater.

'Hollywood' styles

The Brooklyn Paper / Shravan Vidyarthi

Finally, Greenpoint is a destination for more than just hot kielbasa.

The latest entry on the Meserole Avenue runway is Old Hollywood, a new old boutique that specializes in vintage apparel and accessories.

The brainchild of Tiffany Porter and Alex Shulhafer, Old Hollywood is replete with dresses, jewelry, shoes and every other imaginable accessory (like a Ach Ach Liebling handlebar moustache necklace, handcrafted butcher knife pendants and cat-tooth earrings by Species by the Thousands).

Prices range from $5 for rings and cameo pins to $500 for fine gold jewelry and rare vintage artifacts.

Of course, the term "rare," "vintage" and "artifacts" is changing. These days nostalgic garb from the not-too-distant 1980s is a hot commodity, as the availability of '50s couture dwindles. That's why Porter plans to redesign classic swing and wiggle dresses under the house brand that will blend '50s design with today's cuts and sizes.

"Some people don't like vintage," Porter admitted. "In the '50s, you didn't wear a dress that was above your knees."

The shop joins Dalaga and Alter, both on Franklin Street, as the other fashionable spots in the burgeoning neighborhood.

Old Hollywood [110 Meserole Ave., between Manhattan Avenue and Leonard Street in Greenpoint, (718) 389-0837]. Hours: Wed-Fri, 3-10 pm; Sat-Sun 1-10 pm. Credit Cards: Visa, MasterCard, Discover and American Express.

— Ernest Loesser

MORE...

Continued from page 7

tounding good looks make it to his level of minor celebrity?

The answer: Get on TV.

"My life as a performer was unexpected and unsought," he said. "I went on 'The Daily Show' to promote 'The Areas of My Expertise,' and they asked me to do some more segments. It was ridiculously implausible. And then it led to the Apple ads."

The good news is that despite being stopped on the subway and berated about his computing choices (Hodgman is, by the way, not a PC in real life), he still leads the same kind of life of quiet desperation that the rest of us do[10] — with one major exception.

"I do tend to wear tuxedos more often. And I enjoy that," he said. "I did a story for GQ magazine and they let me keep the tuxedo. It is a Calvin Klein and I look wonderful in it."

I reminded Hodgman that, in good conscience, I could not report to my readers that he looked wonderful in it, as I have never seen him in the tux.

"Yes, but you can quote me on that," he said. "It is true. There are pictures on Flickr."

Sounds like more minor celebrity is forthcoming.

FOOTNOTES

1) If we did that, we would find ourselves at the end of this TRULY UNIQUE PROFILE, and I am having too much fun writing it to allow you to jump to the end, which, I assure you, won't be as good as this opening.
2) Insomuch as one can be truly humble given one's status as a "person" who has APPEARED ON TELEVISION — and sometimes even on channels that do not come with basic cable.
3) This success is truly outstanding, and speaks to Hodgman's unique gifts as an actor, considering that he does not resemble a personal computer in any way, save for a tiny — I assure you, it's tiny! — bulge around his midsection that resembles the curvature on the screen of an old-style monitor.
4) I am NOT making that up. Just ask him about Humboldt Fog. Ask him! He sucks that stuff down like it's krill and he's a baleen whale!
5) This would be a good place to disclose that I have known John Hodgman socially for about a decade. In fact, on one unforgettable night in 2003, Hodgman was sitting in the back room at McManus Pub on Seventh Avenue in Manhattan, commanding a group of lackeys and other hangers-on, while I was having a beer with a friend at the bar. A member of Hodgman's group noticed me and invited me to join them. I demurred (out of deference to my friend, I assure you!). Only later did I learn that had I joined the group that night, I would later have become the "Radio Shack TRS-80" in the "I'm a P.C./I'm a Mac" Apple ads.
6) We are, of course, talking about the new and, it must be said!, inferior "Battlestar Galactica," not the Lorne Greene version that ran on ABC in 1978–9.
7) The assertion that Hodgman's books contain only false material is, itself, false. His name is spelled correctly in every edition, there are references to real places such as New York and Chicago (wherever that is), and actual coverage of the historic (and likely recurring) problem of hoboes.
8) There is no question among historians that moose detest trusts, monopolies and holding companies. See Allen, Dr. David, "Laissez-faire on the prairie: Moose, buffalo and the Teapot Dome scandal," page 714.
9) Forgive my lack of formality, but I have come to feel really warm towards you.
10) I do NOT mean to be presumptuous about your happiness, but you have been a bit glum lately.

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Sex, lies, phones

A new photography exhibit reveals just who is on the other end of the line

By Andy Seccombe
for The Brooklyn Paper

They say phone sex is anonymous. But in DUMBO this week, a one-night-only photo exhibition pulls back the covers on the delights of dialing-up.

Featuring the photographs of artists Phil Toledano and Rebecca Memoli, "Phone Sex: Real and Imagined" explores both sides of the handheld experience, tapping in to callers' fantasies as well as the operators' work on the other end of the line.

"I'm taking their fantasies and making them my own," said 23-year-old Memoli, whose contributions to the show include a portrayal of a leather-clad lady fondling a green dildo while sitting in a caller's car.

A case of art imitating life? Perhaps, considering that Memoli used to be a phone sex operator herself.

"It's one of the most difficult jobs I've ever got because I was working on commission," she said. "[But even] during some of the most ridiculous conversations — like one fellow wanted to f– a blowdryer — I was still concerned with keeping them on the line and giving them what they wanted."

This unusual career history led her to meet with Toledano, who contacted her to appear in his new book, "Phone-sex," that features photos of actual phone sex operators (the best shots are the most shocking: morbidly obese women, chain smokers with more wrinkles than Keith Richards, girls next door who should definitely not be doing this kind of work).

Toledano, 39, said he was attracted to the quaint, old-fashioned technology of phone sex — phone receiver in one hand and, well, you get the idea — as well as its intrinsic sense of delusion.

Plus, phone sex is the great equalizer: people of all ages, backgrounds, socio-economic status and place in American politics are doing it.

"The thing about the phone is the complete anonymity and that's interesting, disgusting, horrifying," he said. "And there's no boundaries to what sort of madness people are into."

But even wild imaginations need a few rules, said Memoli. Like any honorable profession, the phone sex industry has some much-needed limitations. Drug references and conversations with people under 18 are off-limits.

But almost everything else goes — as long as the operator can figure out, quickly, what her client is doing.

"Sometimes I lucked out," she said. "If I used a word that was too big, I would get hung up on. If I used the wrong word, like 'underpants' instead of 'panties,' they hung up immediately. So I learned, 'OK, no 'underpants!'"

ART

"Phone Sex: Real and Imagined," Nov. 6, 6-9pm at Pochron Studios (20 Jay St., 11th floor, at Plymouth Street in DUMBO). Phil Toledano's book, "Phonesex" (Twin Palms Press), will be on sale in December at www.twinpalms.com. For other info, visit www.mrtoledano.com or www.rebeccamemoli.com.

Phillip Toledano

Every man's fantasy?: Phone sex operator "Quince" as she appears in Phillip Toledano's upcoming book and gallery show next week.

BROOKLYN Nightlife

Compiled by Chiara V. Cowan

BAY RIDGE

Shenanigans On Third

8901 Third Ave. at 89th Street, No phone, www.shenanigansonthird.com. **Tuesdays:** Karaoke Night with DJ Logo, 9 pm, FREE; **Thursdays:** Karaoke Idol with DJ Logo, 9 pm, FREE; **Fridays:** Dance the Night Away with DJ Momo, 9 pm, FREE.

The Wicked Monk

8415 Fifth Ave. at 84th Street, (718) 921-0601, www.wickedmonk.com. **Nov. 1:** Panic Attack, 11 pm, $5; **Nov. 2:** Karaoke with Jes and Fresh, 9 pm; **Nov. 6:** DJ Tony Bobo, 10 pm, $5; **Nov. 7:** Radio Drama, 8 pm, Saint Excess, 11 pm, $5.

BOERUM HILL

Deity

368 Atlantic Ave. at Hoyt Street, (718) 222-3692, www.deitynyc.com. **Thursdays:** "Bi-Polar Thursdays" with Ali Shaheed Muhammad (of A Tribe Called Quest and Lucy Pearl), 10 pm, $5 before Midnight, $10 after Midnight; **Nov. 1:** Michael J., Madonna, and Prince Birthday Party, 10 pm.

Hank's Saloon

46 Third Ave. at Atlantic Avenue, (718) 625-8003, www.exitfive.com/hankssaloon. **Mondays:** Live band country karaoke, 10 pm, FREE; **Wednesdays:** Live band "Rockstar Karaoke," 9:30 pm, FREE; **Nov. 6:** Brandon Moses, Crouch, 10 pm, FREE; **Nov. 7:** The Noble Savages Band, 10 pm, FREE.

BROOKLYN HEIGHTS

Last Exit

136 Atlantic Ave. at Clinton Street, (718) 222-9198, www.lastexitbar.com. **Saturdays:** "Kayo's Knockout," DJ Kayo's booty-shakin', jam-jumpin', all-night, get-down party, 10 pm, FREE; **Nov. 3:** Pub Quiz, 8:30 pm, $5 per entrant; **Nov. 7:** "Pleasureweb" with DJs Oneman & E's E, 10 pm, FREE.

CLINTON HILL

Jazz 966

966 Fulton St. at St. James Place, (718) 638-6910, www.illbrew.com. **Fridays:** Live jazz, 8 pm, $15 donation.

Icy treat: Comedian Eugene Mirman performs at Union Hall on Nov. 2.

Sputnik

262 Taaffe Pl. at De Kalb Avenue, (718) 398-6666, www.barsputnik.com. **Saturdays:** DJ Raulph, 9 pm, FREE; **Thursdays:** DJ Evil Dee of the Beatminerz, 8 pm, FREE; **Nov. 1:** "Lyfe" Issue 8 Release Party with Shameless Plug, Baba Israel & Yako, Hyphen-One & Daylow, Sal Good, Spase 1, 9 pm, $5 before Midnight, $8 after Midnight; **Nov. 6:** "The Day After the Day After" hosted by Jean Grae with Derrin Maxwell, 3beanstew, Suede Jenkins, and DJs Reborn and Mr. Len, 9 pm, $10 with RSVP, $15 day of the show.

DUMBO

Galapagos Art Space

16 Main St. at Water Street, (718) 222-8500, www.galapagosartspace.com. **Nov. 1:** "NWEAMO Show #2: Sex as Outrageous & Humorous" featuring Sxip Shirey, Tim Pulin, CK Barlow, Sam Pluta, Kinesthetech Sense, SWARMIUS, Radio Wonderland, Fearsome Sparrow, Juan Ernesto Diaz, 5 pm, $15 with $10 suggested minimum; **Nov. 2:** Screening of "Bike the Vote," 7 pm, FREE; **Nov. 4:** Obama Fabulous Galapagos Art Space Election Party, 6 pm, $10; **Nov. 6:** Michael Arnella and His Dreamland Orchestra, 8 pm, $12; **Nov. 7:** SAFER (Students Active for Ending Rape) Fundraiser, 7 pm, $10 suggested minimum.

FORT GREENE

Lox Lounge

15 Putnam Ave. at Grand Avenue, (718) 930-1316, www.reggaesundays.com. **Sundays:** Revival Reggae Sundays featuring DJs Silence, Jase, and Natural Mystik, 9 pm, FREE for ladies and reduced with RSVP for gentlemen before midnight, $10 after midnight; **Nov. 2:** "Ladies First," 9 pm, FREE for ladies and reduced with RSVP for gentlemen before midnight, $10 after midnight.

GOWANUS

The Bell House

149 Seventh St. at Third Avenue, (718) 643-6510, www.thebellhousenyc.com. **Nov. 1:** Royal American, Fugu, Greta Gertler, 8 pm, $8; **Nov. 3:** "Outsmarted," trivia night, 8 pm, FREE; **Nov. 4:** An election night celebration with music and cocktails, 7:30 pm, FREE; **Nov. 5:** Union Hall Secret Science Club, 7:30 pm, FREE; **Nov. 7:** Neckbeard Telecaster, a dual record release for Mia Riddle and Andrew Thompson, 8 pm, $8.

GREENPOINT

Club Europa

98 Meserole Ave. at Manhattan Avenue, (718) 383-5723, www.europalive.net. **Saturdays:** VIP Dance Party, 10 pm, FREE before 10:30 pm, $15 after 10:30 pm; **Tuesdays:** Karaoke Night, 8 pm, FREE; **Fridays:** Sexy Progressive/Dance party, 10 pm, FREE before 10:30 pm, $15 after 10:30 pm; **Nov. 2:** Harvey Milk, Casket Architects, Bison, Bezoar, Buddy Hollycost, Wizardry, Naim, Dark Inside the Sun, Bad Dream, Wet Nurse, La Otracina, MAW, 4 pm, $15; **Nov. 3:** Kalashnikov, 8 pm, $10; **Nov. 7:** The Dwarves, The Uprising, Sister Anne, 7 pm, $15.

PARK SLOPE

Barbes

376 Ninth St. at Sixth Avenue, (718) 965-9177, www.barbesbrooklyn.com. **Tuesdays:** Slavic Soul Party, 9 pm, $10; **Nov. 1:** Wu Fei & Erik Friedlander, 8 pm, $10, 10 pm; **Nov. 2:** Celebrate El Dia de los Muertos with Banda Sinaloense de los Muertos, 8:30 pm, $10 suggested donation, The Hot Club of Detroit with special guest Stephane Wrembel, 10 pm, $10 suggested donation; **Nov. 3:** Chicha Libre, 7 pm, $10 suggested donation; **Nov. 5:** The Parker String Quartet, 8 pm, $10, The Mandingo Ambassadors, 10 pm, $10; **Nov. 6:** Rachel Davis & Dominic John, 7 pm, $10 suggested donation; Mike & Ruthy, 9 pm, $10 suggested donation, Rachelle Garniez, 10 pm, $10 suggested donation; **Nov. 7:** The Carducci String Quartet, 8 pm, $10 suggested donation, Kill Henry Sugar, 10 pm, $10 suggested donation.

Brooklyn Lyceum

227 Fourth Ave. at President Street, (718) 857-4816, www.gowanus.com. **Sundays:** Jazz on Sundays curated by Chris Komer, 9 pm, 10:30 pm, $10 per set; **Wednesdays:** Jazz on Wednesdays curated by Joe Phillips, 8 pm, 9:30 pm, $10 per set.

Southpaw

125 Fifth Ave. at St. Johns Place, (718) 230-0236, www.spsounds.com. **Nov. 1:** Halloween RUB with DJs Cosmo Baker, Eleven, Ayres, and special guests Scratch Bastid & Sleater Brockman (COSTUMES ONLY); **Nov. 4:** Election Night on the big screen with DJ Mikey Palms and friends hosted by Alex Grashaw, 7 pm, $5; **Nov. 5:** Karen Ann with Avisha Cohen on trumpet, 8 pm, $15; **Nov. 6:** The Hajdi Dials, Black Diamond Bay, Hilotrons, 8 pm; "I Got 5 On It" wiht DJs Mick Boogie, Terry Urban & Indiana Jones, 10 pm, FREE; **Nov. 7:** Dance Dance Dance Record Release Party featuring DJs Silver, Swoul, Seen, Raw Q, and Stress, and MCs TC, IZ, & DYER, 10 pm, $10.

The Royale

506 Fifth Ave. at 12th Street, (718) 840-0089, www.royalebrooklyn.com. **Nov. 6:** Drive-By Leslie, 11 pm, FREE; **Nov. 7:** "Kiss the Sky" with DJ OBaH, 11 pm, FREE.

Union Hall

702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue, (718) 638-4400, www.unionhallny.com. **Nov. 1:** The Shamblers, The T&V, The Iran-Contras, 8 pm, $5; **Nov. 2:** Tearing the Veil of Maya, comedy with Eugene Mirman and friends, 8 pm, $7; **Nov. 3:** The Moth Story Slam, 7:30 pm, $6; **Nov. 4:** Election Night 2008, 6 pm, FREE; **Nov. 5:** Union Hall Secret Science Club, 7:30 pm, FREE, Mishka, 9:30 pm, $10 in advance, $12 day of the show; **Nov. 6:** Twice as Bright, Steve Burns & The Struggle, The City & Horses, 7:30 pm, $8; **Nov. 7:** Corn Mo & 357 Lowe, Kissy Kamikaze, From Bubblegum to Sky, 8 pm, $8.

PROSPECT HEIGHTS

The Backroom

485 Dean St. at Sixth Avenue, (718) 622-7035, www.freddysbackroom.com. **Nov. 2:** Board Game Night, 5:30 pm, FREE; **Nov. 3:** Stand-Up Comedy Night, 9:30 pm, FREE; **Nov. 6:** Old-Time Jam, 8 pm, FREE.

RED HOOK

Jalopy

315 Columbia St. at Woodhull Street, (718) 395-3214, www.jalopy.biz. **Mondays:** Country Blues Jam, 9 pm, FREE; **Wednesdays:** Roots n' Ruckus, a night of folk, old-time, and blues, 9:30 pm, FREE; **Nov. 1:** Old Time Masters with A-Kays, 9 pm, $10; **Nov. 2:** "Bound to Lose Party" with Peter Stampfel and Friends, 8 pm, $10; **Nov. 4:** "Obama Victory Party," 8 pm; **Nov. 6:** "Hooklyn Hollar" with Warren Malone, 9 pm, Whistling Rufus, 10 pm, $5; **Nov. 7:** Brooklyn Djangology Festival with The Ameranouche Trio, 9 pm, $TBD, Sinti Rhythm, 10 pm, $5, Franglais, 11 pm, $5.

WILLIAMSBURG

Music Hall of Williamsburg

66 N. Sixth St. at Wythe Avenue, (718) 486-5400, www. musichallofwilliamsburg.com. **Nov. 1:** Hotel Cafe Tour with Rachael Yamagata, Meiko, Thao Nguyen, Emily Wells, Samantha Crain, 7:30 pm, $22 in advance, $25 day of the show; **Nov. 6:** Joseph Arthur & The Lonely Astronauts, 8 pm, $20 in advance, $20 day of the show; **Nov. 7:** Deerhunter, Times New Viking, Knyle Hyts, 8 pm, $15 in advance, $17 day of the show.

Pete's Candy Store

709 Lorimer St. at Richardson Street, (718) 302-3770, www. petescandystore.com. **Sundays:** Open Mic, 5 pm, Sasha Dobson, 8:30 pm, FREE; **Wednesdays:** Quizz-Off, 7:30 pm, FREE; **Nov. 1:** Ryan Doyle, 8 pm, Girl Friday, 9 pm, Jeff and Hailey London, 10 pm, Drew Victor, 11 pm, FREE; **Nov. 2:** Tam-Lin Music, 9:30 pm, Amanda Brat, 10:30 pm, Vanderbilt, 11:30 pm, FREE; **Nov. 3:** Monday Evening Stand-Up, 7:30 pm, Jason Anderson, 9:30 pm, Snufflufluffagus, 11 pm, FREE; **Nov. 4:** Dylan Connor, 9 pm, Brooklyn Guitar Pull, 10 pm, FREE; **Nov. 5:** Arlis Parker, 10 pm, Cameron Hull, 11 pm, FREE; nov. 6: Whiting Tennis, 9 pm, TBD, 10 pm, The Sways, 11 pm, FREE; **Nov. 7:** Pete's Big Poetry, 7 pm, TBD, 9 pm, Cassavettes, 10 pm, Daniel Goodman, 11 pm, FREE.

Public Assembly

70 N. Sixth St. at Wythe Avenue, (718) 782-5188, www.publicassemblynyc.com. **Nov. 1:** Duffs Black Metal Nite with Acheron, Crucifier, Malkuth, Baphomet's Horns, 7 pm, $20; Crooked Disco Halloween Bash, 10 pm, $5; **Nov. 2:** "Show No Mercy Metal Nite!" with DJs Jonbenet, Teeth, Bird Flu, Ian Jacyszym, 9 pm, FREE; **Nov. 4:** Lodack Release Party, 9 pm, FREE; "Obama Said Knock You Putt Party," Yacht Rock, 9 pm, FREE; **Nov. 5:** Night Gallery, Button Down Runner, Caterwaul of Sound, None Survived, Laws of Gravity, Guns Religion Money, Life Occurs, 8 pm, $5; **Nov. 6:** Five Cents, Holy Hail, Skew, and DJs Oil, Cameron, Doug Smiley, and more, 9 pm, $8; Hustler of Culture, 9 pm; **Nov. 7:** Tommy Brunett, 8 pm, Thought 5o, 9 pm, $10, The Bunker, 11 pm, $10; "The Bun to Your Hot Dog" Tour featuring XO with Shanti, Paper Mache, and Smile Smile, 7 pm, $8, Flashing Lights, 10 pm, FREE.

Sound Fix Records

110 Bedford Ave. at North Eleventh Street, (718) 388-8090, www. soundfixrecords.com. **Wednesdays:** Comedy Free Williamsburg with John & Ed, 8 pm, FREE; **Thursdays:** Max Silvestri, Gabe & Jenny, 8 pm, FREE; **Nov. 2:** Fix Tape Exchange, 8 pm, FREE; **Nov. 3:** Entertaining the Bartender with Jena Friedman, 8 pm, FREE; **Nov. 4:** Rear Shack, 8 pm, FREE; **Nov. 5:** Totally J/K with Joe and Noah, 9:30 pm, FREE.

Union Pool

484 Union Ave. at Meeker Avenue, (718) 609-0484, www.myspace.com/unionpool. **Nov. 1:** Michael Talbot and The Wolf Kings, Family Band, Miguel Mendez, 8 pm, $TBD; **Nov. 4:** Election Night coverage, 8 pm, FREE; **Nov. 5:** The High Dials, The Octagon, Hilotrons, 8 pm, $8; **Nov. 6:** The Heavy, Kanan Bell, 8 pm, $10 in advance; **Nov. 7:** The A-Bones, Moto Gators, Jerry Teel and The Big City Stompers, 8 pm, $8.

TALK TO US...

To list your events in **Brooklyn Nightlife**, please give us as much notice as possible. Include name of venue, address with cross street, phone number for the public to call, Web site address, dates, times and admission or ticket prices. Send listings and color photos of performers via e-mail to Nightlife@BrooklynPaper.com or via fax at (718) 834-9278. Listings are free and printed on a space available basis. We regret we cannot take listings over the phone.

The listings are correct as of press time. Contact the venue before you go to confirm event details.

http://

For more Brooklyn Nightlife options, see our listings at **BrooklynPaper.com/Nightlife**

9 DAYS ...

Continued from page 8

[16 Main St. corner of Water Street in DUMBO, (718) 222-8500].

WEDS, NOV. 5

HISTORICAL DRAMA, "CAMP LOGAN": 7:30 pm. See Sat., Nov. 1.

SPECIAL NEEDS TALK, "ADVOCACY SKILLS FOR PARENTS: Birth to 5": 10 am-1 pm. Brooklyn Public Library's Brooklyn Heights branch [280 Cadman Plaza West at Tillary Street in Downtown, (212) 677-4650]. **Free.**

SCHOOLS OF CHOICE: Department of Education session on magnet schools. 9-10:30 am, 2-4 pm, or 6:30-8:30 pm. [415 89th St., at Fourth Avenue in Bay Ridge, (718) 759-4977]. **Free.**

CHAMBER OPERA, "ARJUNA'S DILEMNA": Opera, adapted from the Hindu epic "Bhagavad Gita," features North Indian percussion, Western choral and international music. Hindustani singer Amit Chatterjee stars. $20–$40. 7:30 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music's Harvey Theater [651 Fulton St. at Rockwell Place in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100].

DANCE, "THE SEVEN BOARDS OF SKILL": Based on the Chinese game of tangram, Chinese acrobats and Peking opera performers transform shapes into metaphors of human experience. $20–$60. 7:30 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music [30 Lafayette Ave. at St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100].

TRAIN TALK: Lawrence Stelter, author of "By the El," gives a talk about the elevated transit system. 7:30 pm. Supreme Court Building [360 Adams St., between Joralemon and Johnson streets, enter on Court Street side of the building, in Brooklyn Heights, (646) 873-9711]. **Free.**

CLASSICAL MUSIC: Works by Bach, Ligeti and Ben-Haim. $35, $15 students. 8 pm. Bargemusic [Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street at the East River, (718) 624-2083].

THURS, NOV. 6

PLAY, "LORD OXFORD": 8 pm. See Sat., Nov. 1.

PLAY, "LIKE YOU LIKE IT": 8 pm. See Sat., Nov. 1.

LUNCH WITH CINDY SHERMAN: Brooklyn Museum honors conceptual artist Cindy Sherman. $150 and up. 11 am. Brooklyn Museum [200 Eastern Pkwy. at Washington Avenue in Crown Heights, (718) 789-2493].

WRITER TALK: Author Jonathan Lethem reads and takes questions. 4 pm. St. Francis College [180 Remsen St., between Court and Clinton streets in Brooklyn Heights, (646) 369-8988].

RECEPTION: Live music and a photography exhibit. 5-9 pm. Rabbit Hole Studio [33 Washington St., at Water Street in DUMBO, (718) 852-1500]. **Free.**

PLAY, "PHONE SEX": Exhibit addresses both sides of phone sex: the operators' experience and the callers'. 6-9 pm. Pochron Studios [20 Jay St. at Plymouth Street in DUMBO, (718) 237-1332]. **Free.**

HEALING WITH HORTICULTURE: Learn about therapeutic horticulture. 6-8 pm. Brooklyn Botanic Garden (1000 Washington Ave., at Eastern Parkway in Crown Heights). Registration required. (718) 623-7220]. **Free.**

CHARITABLE GIVING: Learn how to use charitable giving as a tool in estate planning. 6 pm. Brooklyn Bar Association [123 Remsen St. between Henry and Clinton streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 624-0675].

MOVIE, "DO THE RIGHT THING": Screening with discussion to follow. 6-9 pm. New York City College of Technology [300 Jay St., near Johnson Street in Downtown, (718) 260-4910]. **Free.**

FILM, "TWILIGHT BECOMES NIGHT": Documentary about neighborhood businesses that have closed. Discussion with community leaders follows. 7 pm. Kane Street Synagogue [236 Kane St., near Court Street in Cobble Hill, (718) 875-1550].

ONE-OF-A-KIND BARGE: Lecture about Red Hook's Waterfront Museum. 7:30 pm. The Montauk Club [25 Eighth Ave., at Lincoln Place in Park Slope, (646) 334-0241]. **Free.**

MUSIC: Michael Arenella and his Dreamland Orchestra. $12. 8 pm. Galapagos Art Space [16 Main St. at Water Street in DUMBO, (718) 222-8500].

FRI, NOV. 7

HISTORICAL DRAMA, "CAMP LOGAN": 7:30 pm. See Sat., Nov. 1.

CHAMBER OPERA: "ARJUNA'S DILEMNA": 7:30 pm. Also, artist talk with Douglas Cuomo and artists, post-show. Free for ticket holders. See Weds., Nov. 5.

DANCE, "THE SEVEN BOARDS OF SKILL": 7:30 pm. See Weds., Nov. 5. Also, talk with Aurelien Bory, $8. 6 pm. Hillman Attic Studio [30 Lafayette Ave. at St. Felix Street in Fort Greene.]

PLAY, "LORD OXFORD": 8 pm. See Sat., Nov. 1.

TOPS OF THE POPS: 8 pm. See Sat., Nov. 1.

PLAY, "LIKE YOU LIKE IT": 8 pm. See Sat., Nov. 1.

IDENTITY THEFT: Learn how identity theft happens and how to protect yourself against it. 6 pm. New York City College of Technology [300 Jay St. at Johnson Street in Downtown, (718) 260-4910]. **Free.**

SHADES OF GREEN: Eco-friendly fundraiser offers music, dancing and silent auction. $125 VIP tickets; $45 general admission. 6 pm-midnight. Center for the Urban Environment [168 Seventh Ave. between Second and Third avenues in Gowanus, (718) 768-9069].

GALLERY RECEPTION: "Interior/Exterior Realities," a series of carbon on aluminum paintings by Norman Mooney. 6 pm. Chi Contemporary Fine Art Gallery [293 Grand St. near Roebling Street in Williamsburg, (718) 218-8939].

MUSIC: Acoustic roots music with Jud Caswell. $10, $6 kids. 8 pm. Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture [53 Prospect Park West at Second Street in Park Slope, (718) 768-2972].

20TH-CENTURY MUSIC: The Omni Ensemble plays composers Elliott Carter and Olivier Messiaen. $15, $10 students and seniors. 8 pm. Brooklyn Conservatory of Music [58 Seventh Ave., at Lincoln Place in Park Slope, (718) 859-8649].

DANCE, "PREY": a site-based dance inhabiting the BAX building. $20. 8 pm. Brooklyn Arts Exchange [421 Fifth Ave. at Eighth Street in Park Slope, (718) 832-0018].

CLASSICAL MUSIC: Selections from **"Platero Y Yo: Mario Castelnuovo Tedesco."** $35, $15 students. 8 pm. Bargemusic [Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street at the East River, (718) 624-2083].

PLAY, "STEEL MAGNOLIAS": $10, $8 kids. 8 pm. Our Lady of Angels [347 74th St. between Third and Fourth avenues in Bay Ridge, (718) 238-7734].

SAT, NOV. 8

OUTDOORS

BIRDING INTRO: Noon to 1:30 pm. See Sat., Nov. 1.

WILD FOOD TOUR: Enjoy a walk around Prospect Park as you look for edible and medicinal wild plants and mushrooms. $15, $10 kids. 11:45 am. Meet at Grand Army Plaza and Eastern Parkway entrance to Prospect Park. (914) 835-2153.

PERFORMANCE

PLAY, "LIKE YOU LIKE IT": 2 pm and 8 pm. See Sat., Nov. 1.

OPERA, "THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO": 3:30 pm. See Sat., Nov. 1.

DANCE: 7 pm and 9:30 pm. See Fri., Nov. 7.

CHAMBER OPERA, "ARJUNA'S DILEMNA": 7:30 pm. See Weds., Nov. 5.

DANCE, "THE SEVEN BOARDS OF SKILL": 7:30 pm. See Weds., Nov. 5.

HISTORICAL DRAMA, "CAMP LOGAN": 8 pm. See Sat., Nov. 1.

PLAY, "LORD OXFORD": 8 pm. See Sat., Nov. 1.

TOPS OF THE POPS: 8 pm. See Sat., Nov. 1.

PLAY, "STEEL MAGNOLIAS": 8 pm. See Sat., Nov. 1.

DOO-WOP NIGHT: Several musical groups, antique cars on display, raffles and refreshments. $30. 7:30 pm. St. Finbar's Church [138 Bay 20th St., between Rutherford Place and Bath Avenue in Bath Beach, (718) 236-3312].

CLASSICAL MUSIC: Selections of works by Mozart, Schubert and Handel. $35, $15 students. 8 pm. Bargemusic [Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street at the East River, (718) 624-2083].

BURLESQUE: More than 20 performers of Wasabassco Burlesque entertain with music, comedy, trapeze, go-go, belly-dancing and other teasing acts. $20. 10 pm. The Bell House [149 Seventh St., between Second and Third avenues in Gowanus, (718) 666-8794].

OTHER

OPEN STUDIO: Exhibit of international contemporary art features works by 25 artists-in-residence. Also, live music, performances, artists talks and film screenings. Noon-6 pm. International Studio [1040 Metropolitan Ave. at Morgan Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 387-2900]. **Free.**

ARTISTS SPEAK OUT: Artistic conversation with artists whose works are on exhibit in "I Am A Man." $4, $3 students. 2 pm. Museum of Contemporary African Diasporan Arts [80 Hanson Place, corner of South Portland in Downtown, (718) 230-0492].

DINNER AND DANCE: St. Patrick's Society of Brooklyn hosts its 158th anniversary event. $85. 7 pm-midnight. Bay Ridge Manor [476 73rd Street in Bay Ridge, (917) 952-0776].

SUN, NOV. 9

PERFORMANCE

PLAY, "LIKE YOU LIKE IT": 3 pm. See Sat., Nov. 1.

HISTORICAL DRAMA, "CAMP LOGAN": 3 pm. See Sat., Nov. 1.

OPERA, "THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO": 3:30 pm. See Sat., Nov. 1.

PLAY, "STEEL MAGNOLIAS": 5 pm. See Sat., Nov. 1.

DANCE: 7 pm and 9:30 pm. See Fri., Nov. 7.

CLASSICAL MUSIC: 8 pm. See Sat., Nov. 8.

CHORAL RECITAL: Michiyo Tnaka and the "Praise in the Wind" singers perform. 4 pm. St. Jacobi Ev. Lutheran Church [5406 Fourth Ave., and 54th Street in Sunset Park, (718) 439-8978]. **Free.**

No doggerel: OK, so he's not the poet laureate any more, but Robert Pinsky will join another former Rhymer-in-Chief Louise Gluck at James Dinnerstein's studio for a reading on Nov. 1.

LIST YOUR EVENT...

To list your event in **Nine Days In Brooklyn**, please give us two weeks notice or more. Send your listing by e-mail: calendar@brooklynpaper.com; by mail: QIO Brooklyn, The Brooklyn Paper, 55 Washington St., Suite 624, Brooklyn, NY 11201; or by fax: (718) 834-9278. Listings are free and printed on a space available basis. We regret we cannot take listings over the phone.

DECISION '08

ELECTION DAY IS TUESDAY, NOV. 4

Wackiest race in the city comes to a close

By Mike McLaughlin
The Brooklyn Paper

One night of drinking and driving by Rep. Vito Fossella now looks like it will result in the end of 26 years of Republican control of a Bay Ridge congressional seat.

Along the way, there's been death, party infighting and even family dysfunction as front-runner Councilman Mike McMahon (D–Staten Island) and former Assemblyman Bob Straniere head into the final weekend of the campaign.

In the candidates' last best chance to sway undecided voters — a debate in The Brooklyn Paper's DUMBO newsroom last week — Straniere staked out a far-right-of-center position, deriding any attempt to tax people who make more than $250,000 as "Obama-nomics," celebrating divisive GOP vice-presidential nominee Sarah Palin as an electrifying figure, and opposing abortion rights even in the case of rape or incest.

"Obama-nomics [means] raising taxes and redistributing income," said Straniere, a former 12-term assemblyman who has been ostracized from the local party after butting heads with Staten Island powerbrokers throughout his career.

He doesn't think Obama will stop increasing the tax rate if the Democratic nominee becomes president.

"He's going to start off raising taxes on people who earn more than $250,000. When you start raising taxes on some, you're going to raise them on all," Straniere warned, who has campaigned as part of the "McCain–Palin–Straniere" ticket on a shoestring budget.

Meanwhile, Democrat McMahon stuck to middle-of-the-road, bread-and-butter issues, and stayed out of the abortion thicket by describing himself as "pro-Choice" — and leaving it at that. He said that presidential nominee Barack Obama's tax plan would help the middle class.

"People are tired of a tax code that favors the very, very, very rich," he said, suggesting that there are few of such people in a district that covers Bay Ridge, Bensonhurst and Dyker Heights.

Though McMahon espouses bipartisan rhetoric, he couldn't resist saying that it was time the district ditched its Republican voting record.

"We've had a Republican congressman for 28 years. We haven't benefited," he said.

The loosening of the GOP grip on this seat began on May 1, when Fossella was arrested for drunk driving. He subsequently admitted that he had been en route to the home of his mistress and their out-of-wedlock daughter.

McMahon, who had not been running before Fossella's downfall, quickly outfoxed many other Democrats interested in the seat to get support from the national party. He went on to raise more than $1 million and win the endorsement of Mayor Bloomberg before trouncing his primary opponent Steve Harrison, a Bay Ridge lawyer.

At the same time, turmoil continued to surround the Republican ticket. The party had trouble finding a replacement, eventually settling on Francis Powers, a retired Wall Street executive and MTA board member in June.

His candidacy was blindsided by a surprise declaration from his estranged son, also named Francis Powers, that he would run against his father.

That family feud ended when the younger Powers failed to get the Libertarian Party nomination. And then the soap opera ended for good when the elder Powers died from a heart attack in July.

Plunged into chaos again, Staten Island and Brooklyn Republicans openly snarled at one another over the disorder in their ranks and the reluctance of any apparently viable candidate to emerge.

Having lost his Assembly seat in a bitter primary fight in 2004, Straniere crept out of the political graveyard to win the Republican nomination, but has campaigned without much local support. He has raised just $71,000.

See the full wide-ranging hour-long debate at Brooklyn Paper.com.

The Brooklyn Paper / Kirsten Joy Watts

The Brooklyn Paper / Kirsten Joy Watts

Long strange trip: This crazy campaign all started on May 1, when Rep. Vito Fossella (above right) was arrested for drunk driving. Then, the GOP picked MTA board member Frank Powers (above left) to succeed him. When Powers suddenly died, former Assemblyman Bob Straniere (near left) won the GOP primary and will now face popular Councilman Mike McMahon (far left) in Tuesday's election. Watch their debate at BrooklynPaper.com.

2008 Election guide

Compiled by Zeke Faux
for The Brooklyn Paper

They say you can't tell the players without a scorecard — and the saying applies to politics. But thankfully, there's The Brooklyn Paper's full guide to the election battles in our area. True, most of the best races were decided in smoke-filled back rooms (better known as the September party primaries), but the presidential election will no doubt draw plenty of people to the polls, so it's best to be prepared for all the other names on the ballot. Plus, there's also a referendum to change the state Constitution! To find your polling place, call (866) VOTE-NYC (868-3692) or visit the Board of Elections Web site at http://www.vote.nyc.ny.us. Polls are open from 9 am to 9 pm.

PRESIDENT
- Barack Obama *(D, WF)*
- John McCain *(R, I, C)*
- Roger Calero *(Socialist Workers)*
- Gloria La Riva *(Socialism & Liberation)*
- Cynthia McKinney *(Green)*
- Bob Barr *(Libertarian)*
- Ralph Nader *(Populist)*

CONGRESS

EIGHTH DISTRICT *(includes Red Hook, Dyker Heights, Coney Island)*
- Jerry Nadler *(D, WF)**
- Grace Lin *(R, C)*

10TH DISTRICT *(includes Fort Greene, Clinton Hill, Williamsburg)*
- Ed Towns *(D)**
- Salvatore Grupico *(R, C)*

11TH DISTRICT *(includes Brooklyn Heights, Carroll Gardens, Cobble Hill, Park Slope and Prospect Heights)*
- Yvette Clarke *(D, WF)**
- Hugh Carr *(R)*
- Cartrell Gore *(C)*

12TH DISTRICT *(includes Brooklyn Heights, Cobble Hill, Carroll Gardens, Red Hook, Williamsburg and Greenpoint)*
- Nydia Velazquez *(D, WF)**
- Allan Romaguera *(R, C)*

13TH DISTRICT *(Bay Ridge)*
- Michael McMahon *(D, WF)*
- Robert Straniere *(R)*
- Carmine Morano *(I)*
- Timothy Cochrane *(C)*

STATE SENATE

18TH DISTRICT *(Park Slope, Fort Greene and Clinton Hill)*
- Velmanette Montgomery *(D, WF)**
- Sandra Palacios-Serrano *(R, C)*
- Vito Lopez *(D)**
- Frances Cutrone *(R)*

57TH DISTRICT *(Fort Greene and Prospect Heights)*
- Hakeem Jeffries *(D, WF)**
- Charles Brickous *(R)*

60TH DISTRICT *(Bay Ridge)*
- Janele Hyer-Spencer *(D, I, WF)**
- Joseph Cammarata *(R, C)*

SUPREME COURT
(vote for eight)
- Ariel Belen *(D, R, C)**
- Gloria Dabiri *(D, R, C)**
- John Leventhal *(D, R, C)**
- Plummer Lott *(D, R, C)**
- Marsha Steinhardt *(D, R, C)**
- Ellen Spodek *(D, R)**
- Richard Velasquez *(D)*
- Paul Wooten *(D)**
- Paul Atanasio *(C)*

CIVIL COURT

BOROUGHWIDE *(vote for three)*
- Alice Rubin *(D)**
- Loren Schiffman *(D)*
- Ingrid Joseph *(D)*
- Vincent Martusciello *(R, C)*
- Theodore Alatsas *(R, C)*
- Philip Smallman *(R, C)*

DISTRICT 1 *(Brooklyn Heights, Carroll Gardens, Cobble Hill)*
- Devin Cohen *(D) (unopposed)*

BALLOT PROPOSAL

Currently, disabled veterans who receive payments from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs get preferential treatment on the state civil service exam. A "Yes" vote would amend the state Constitution so that such veterans who don't receive payments would also get preference. A "No" vote would leave the disability-payment requirement in place.

KEY
** incumbent*
D: Democratic
R: Republican
I: Independence
C: Conservative
WF: Working Families

Final debate for Heights Senate seat

By Sarah Portlock
The Brooklyn Paper

A Republican candidate for the Brooklyn Heights state Senate seat took his last licks at favored Democratic newcomer Daniel Squadron during a debate on Tuesday night, charging that Squadron is part of the same "Democratic machine" that clogs up legislation in Albany — but Squadron sat quietly, knowing that his general election victory was all but guaranteed when he won the Democratic primary in September.

John Chromczak, a former public school teacher running in the overwhelmingly Democratic district that includes Carroll Gardens and parts of Williamsburg, said his "friend" Squadron "is part of the Democratic machine."

"We have to send somebody up there who's willing to go against the machine," he said. "As a regular guy, I'm sick of those empty promises."

Squadron reminded the crowd of 50 at St. Francis College that he has not yet served in Albany, and that Republicans, not Democrats, have controlled the state Senate for nearly four decades.

"My primary campaign [against 30-year incumbent Marty Connor] was about a change of guard, but now I'm about getting Democrats in the majority," Squadron said. "The only way to change [the GOP-controlled Senate] is to pull the rug out from under them."

Chromczak (pronounced KROM-zak) shot back: "Listen to Squadron saying, 'The Democratic party.' I don't see Dan challenging his party."

Squadron took the criticisms in stride during the 90-minute debate, which was hosted by the Brooklyn Heights Blog.

The men stuck to their respective party lines on taxes, and were also at odds over how to fund the Brooklyn Bridge Park waterfront development, which is required to be self-sufficient. Residential development inside the park's footprint is supposed to generate enough revenue, but Squadron has rejected that financing scheme. He favors hotels in the park instead of housing, which he said would limit public access to the park.

At the debate, he again said that the state legislature needs to properly raise and budget money for the park, particularly in our current economy, but Chromczak said the state "cannot tax ourselves out of this" financial crisis, and that housing in the park is an "unfortunate" reality to create self-sufficiency for park funding.

Bill fold!

DeBlasio to avoid Marty, run for public advocate

By Mike McLaughlin
The Brooklyn Paper

Councilman Bill DeBlasio has abandoned his bid to become the next borough president and will run for public advocate instead — an indication that incumbent Beep, Marty Markowitz, will likely cruise to a third term.

Hours after incumbent Public Advocate Betsy Gotbaum, a Democrat, announced that she would not take advantage of last week's change in term limits, DeBlasio said he'd seek that office rather than take on the mighty Markowitz.

"I think I can serve well as the public advocate and defend the rights of the people of the city through that position," DeBlasio said on Tuesday.

Before Gotbaum's decision to retire, DeBlasio's outspoken denunciation of Mayor Bloomberg's quest to extend term limits from eight to 12 years boxed himself into a tight spot. Once the change in term limits passed over his objections, his political options appeared limited to a safe re-election to the Council — which was a road riddled with the potholes of hypocrisy — or continuing his likely futile quest to knock out Markowitz, one of the city's most popular pols.

DeBlasio graciously made way for a Marty three-peat.

"Marty Markowitz is popular throughout the borough, he's done a good job and the people will want him back," the towering councilman said.

That's a change from what DeBlasio told The Brooklyn Paper just three weeks ago, when he seemed unfazed by the notion that Markowitz would soon be eligible to run for a third term.

"There is still an election on Sept. 15, 2009, and [I am] running for Brooklyn borough president," he said then.

The date stays the same, but he's stepped onto the battlefield for public advocate where he'll fight with Councilmen Eric Gioia and John Liu, both Queens Democrats, former New York Civil Liberties Union head Norman Siegel and scandal-prone Assemblyman Adam Clayton IV (D–Manhattan).

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The Brooklyn Paper file / Zack Rosenberg

Councilman Bill DeBlasio, who voted against extending term limits, says he'll run for Public Advocate, not his own seat.

YASSKY...

Continued from page 1

again. Yet when his amendment to do just that was defeated, he voted with the mayor.

And that's not kosher in so-called progressive circles.

"David's vote was more painful than the other 28 'yes' votes because he represents a district that leads the city when it comes to politicial reform," said Alan Fleishman, a Democratic district leader and Yassky constituent. "David's 'yes' vote was politically motivated based on his aspirations to run for higher office. The voters of Brownstone Brooklyn deserved better."

Yassky's Council colleague, Bill DeBlasio, who opposed the term-limit change, blasted Yassky's lack of integrity.

"He was not sincere," said DeBlasio (D–Park Slope), who now says he's running for Public Advocate, though he could run for his own seat. Yassky "did not act with integrity" because his amendment "was not offered in an honest spirit."

"It was an artifice and a maneuver on his part to give him cover," added DeBlasio. "How could you call for a referendum and then vote for the mayor's bill?"

Assemblywoman Joan Millman (D–Carroll Gardens) also attacked Yassky's integrity.

"What he did was not the progressive thing," said Millman. "It outraged people. And his explanation was convoluted and torturous. If you put forth an amendment, you need to gather support for it. And if it fails, you should vote against the bill."

Reached on Tuesday after hearing a week's worth of criticism, Yassky rejected the notion that he opposed overturning the public will on term limits even though his ultimate vote did just that.

"I believe I still have the moral high ground because in the end, I voted for what is in the best interest of the city," he said. "I did want to change term limits. I said that all along. I did not want to do it by overturning the will of the voters, but when that failed, I voted for 12 years instead of eight."

Yassky claimed that personal motivation had nothing to do with his vote; he said he is still running for Comptroller, just as he was before he voted to allow himself to run again for his seat.

But most political insiders believe that Thompson will eventually choose a safe re-election as comptroller over running against the billionaire mayor.

"And when that happens," said one local elected official who sought anonymity because he is still raising money for his own run against a no-longer term-limited councilmember, "Yassky will get to appear like a good Democrat by announcing that he won't take on Thompson."

And when THAT happens, the insider continued, the five people who were already running for Yassky's seat — Ken Baer, Diamonstone, Jo Anne Simon, Evan Thies and Steve Levin — will opt out rather than face an incumbent with a comptroller-sized war chest.

MARTY...

Continued from page 1

has his sights set on Public Advocate, and Barron, who said he will run for something else, said they could not go toe-to-toe with the popular incumbent even if it meant allowing an uncontested campaign for Markowitz.

"Marty Markowitz is popular throughout the borough ... and the people will want him back," said DeBlasio, who had been one of the leading voices against extending term limits.

Barron was far more critical, yet said it would be tough to dethrone Markowitz, who surprised many people with his 2001 win as a dark horse state Senator from Flatbush.

"Marty Markowitz can be beaten if someone had the resources," Barron told The Brooklyn Paper. "He's a stamp of approval for any rich developer that comes in."

But rubber-stamping projects like Bruce Ratner's Atlantic Yards hasn't hurt Markowitz's high approval ratings or undercut his war chest, which holds $930,000 — far more than DeBlasio's $608,000 and Barron's $1,200.

Yet Barron persisted.

"He's a booster. Aside from the concerts he's given and the promotions of Junior's cheesecakes and Nathan's franks, he hasn't done too much."

Barron's attack follows revelations last month that in 2005, Markowitz allocated public money to his own charity, Best of Brooklyn, in several no-bid contracts that are each exactly $1 less than the amount that triggers an automatic city audit — a clear indication that the borough president was trying to avoid city scrutiny. It was also reported that some Borough Hall staffers were getting paid for doing work for Markowitz's charity at the same time they were on the city clock.

That report was followed by a discovery by The Brooklyn Paper that Ratner, his company and his colleagues continue to write fat checks to the Best of Brooklyn charity, which sends children to summer camp, and promotes tourism to Brooklyn, special events like Dine In Brooklyn, as well as the two summer concert series he hosts in Asser Levy Park in Coney Island.

Since 2003, at least $680,000 has poured into those groups from Forest City Ratner, an executive and a subsidiary.

Marathon, man!

It's been called the "biggest block party on Earth," and on Sunday, Brooklynites will once again cheer on the runners in the cold November morning air. Pick a neighborhood along the 13-mile Brooklyn portion of the New York City Marathon, watch the runners go by, then hang out nearby. But first, set your watches: Women runners start out from the Staten Island starting line at 9:10 am. The elite men start a half-hour later. Use the handy map below to plan your day. *— Evan Gardner*

1 BAY RIDGE

In the first Brooklyn stretch, lead women will get to Fourth Avenue and 81st Street at around 9:26 am, followed by the lead men at 9:55. As you wait for the runners, stop by the Little Cupcake Bakeshop on Third Avenue and 91st Street and warm up with a cup of their famous Nutella cappuccino. For some hearty brunch after the runners have passed, walk up Third Avenue to the Greenhouse Cafe on 77th Street.

2 PARK SLOPE

Continuing on Fourth Avenue, women runners will cross the six-mile mark — around 10th Street — at around 9:43 am with their male counterparts passing at 10:10. Take in an Italian-style brunch at the hip new hangout Bar Tano on the corner of Third Avenue and Ninth Street. Watch a few more stragglers then round out the afternoon at the Cherry Tree Bar on Fourth Avenue at Bergen Street and choose from more than 125 varieties of beer. Or cross the street to the Fourth Avenue Pub, where happy hour starts at 3 pm. If you're looking for a warm place to relax with a cold one, head down the block to Pacific Standard, on the corner of St. Marks Place, and set down in their cozy back library room. For an exotic dinner, try Ghenet on Fourth Avenue at Douglass Street for some Ethiopian food, but make sure your friends have clean hands, because it's finger food and everybody shares!

3 FORT GREENE

The lead women will turn from Fourth Avenue onto Lafayette Avenue at 9:54 am, followed by the men at 10:20. After cheering the runners on as they pass the eight-mile mark, go for lunch at the Smoke Joint, a barbecue place Lafayette Avenue at South Elliott Place. If meat is not for you, try some vegetarian fare at Red Bamboo on the corner of Dekalb Avenue and Adelphi Street. For dessert, head to Cake Man Raven for the best red velvet cake. It's on Fulton Street near South Oxford Street. Round out the day with the "I AM A MAN" exhibit at the Museum of Contemporary African Diasporan Art on South Portland Avenue near Hanson Place.

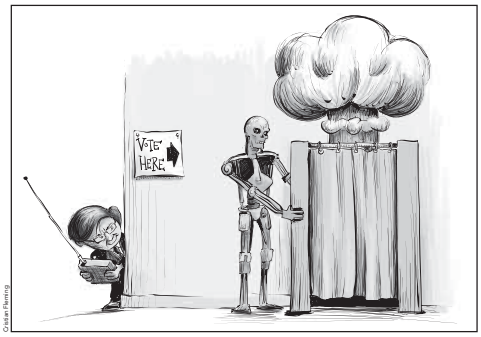
4 WILLIAMSBURG

The race stays on Bedford Avenue pretty much all through Billyburg, with elite women hitting the 11th mile around Metropolitan Avenue at 10:10 am and the men hot on their heels at 10:35. Try the brand new Five Leaves restaurant, which was the pet project of late actor Heath Ledger, on Bedford Avenue at Lorimer Street, for brunch, or go for some vegetarian variety at Bliss, on the corner of Bedford and North Sixth Street. If you're really feeling the running spirit, hit the track in McCarren Park after lunch to work off those calories, bask in the shadows of all those new glass-and-steel condos and think, "Man, this neighborhood has changed."

5 GREENPOINT

The last mile of the Brooklyn leg takes runners up Manhattan Avenue, with the lead women passing Meserole Avenue around 10:16 am, followed by the lead men at 10:40. Join the friendly staff of Cafe Grumpy, on Meserole at Diamond Street, as it cheers the runners on, and then head over to the corner of Lorimer Street and Driggs Avenue for brunch at the Park Luncheonette, a 77-year-old institution. For some afternoon shopping, check out Old Hollywood on Manhattan and Meserole and stock up on some 1950s-style vintage glam accessories (see story on page 9).

ALL DRAWN OUT



Chase Fleming

OUR OPINION

Yassky's integrity terminated

Nobody came out unsullied in the ugly vote by the City Council last week to overturn the voters' twice-stated desire for two-term limits in New York City.

Reasonable people can differ on whether a two-term limit, a three-term limit or no term limits is the best course for our democracy — but one thing is clear: Mayor Bloomberg and a majority of the Council subverted the voters' will in a reprehensible, undemocratic, rushed, back-room manner.

There is no end to the list of villains in this debacle: the mayor himself, for lying earlier in the year when he said he would not tinker with the public's prior term-limit referendums; Speaker Christine Quinn, for enabling the mayor and giving herself four more years in a leadership role before she runs for the mayor's job herself; and the 29 members of the Council who voted to erase the two-term limit that was on the books when they ran for their jobs in the first place.

Brooklyn Heights Councilman David Yassky has earned the wrath of his constituents for joining the Gang of 29 that supported the mayor's power grab — and that anger is deserved.

Yassky, who was planning to run for City Comptroller before buying himself a bonus term in the Council with his tainted term-limit vote, claimed to be so offended by the mayor's undemocratic move that he put up an amendment to force the 12-year cap to go before the voters this spring.

But when Yassky's amendment was shot down, he tossed his integrity in a City Hall garbage can and voted with the mayor.

In doing so, he and the other 28 lackeys ignored a few basic facts about their repugnant vote:

• **It was inherently self-serving:** Most of the members of the Council would have a hard time finding another $90,000-a-year job, but they should not have given in to the temptation of voting themselves a license to hold onto their cushy posts. Now Yassky can run for his seat virtually unopposed. Isn't that convenient?

• **It was falsely argued:** The mayor and Yassky made the argument that the city's economic downturn will be so traumatic that we need Bloomberg's steady hand to pilot this sinking ship. Again, reasonable people can differ on whether Billionaire Mike is the man to oversee New York's response to problems partly caused by his billionaire friends, but there is no doubt that New York City has come through deeper troubles before. Lest we forget, Bloomberg only became boss because then-Mayor Giuliani could not run for a third term despite widespread feeling that the continuity of his leadership was essential after 9-11. It wasn't true then, and it ain't true now.

• **It was unnecessary right now:** If Yassky and others truly believe that a three-term limit is better than two, fine. But such councilmembers could have easily voted against the mayor's naked power grab and then called for a charter commission to review the issue calmly and soberly rather than in the heat of this manufactured leadership crisis.

Councilmembers Letitia James (D–Fort Greene) and Bill DeBlasio (D–Park Slope) say they will sue to block the implementation of the three-term limit. While they, too, would benefit if term-limited officeholders are tossed out — DeBlasio by getting a much easier path to the borough presidency, and James by becoming one of the most senior members of the council overnight — they were at least willing to play by the rules.

They did the right thing on Oct. 23: They voted to uphold the will of the people on term limits.

LETTERS

Hey Paper! Your editorial was Coney baloney!

To the editor,

Your Oct. 18 editorial ("Bloomberg's Coney baloney") regarding the city's recent purchase of property in Coney Island's amusement district misunderstands the city's strategy for preserving the open amusements that are Coney's defining feature.

The city's number one goal, as part of a comprehensive plan to revitalize Coney Island, is to ensure that its iconic rides, arcades, food stands and other outdoor amusements are open and accessible in perpetuity.

While the city does propose to "map" the nine-acre open amusement area as parkland, it is not true that "virtually anything can be built" in mapped parkland. In fact, designation of property as "mapped parkland" permanently prohibits hotels, condos, convention centers and other similar commercial uses.

State legislation that will be sought by the administration will allow for a long-term lease of mapped parkland for amusement-related uses only, to promote the vitality of Coney Island's amusement area while ensuring that incompatible uses can never be developed there.

Mapping the open amusement area as "parkland" is the best way to ensure that Coney Island's amusements are protected irrespective of economic pressures — something existing zoning has failed to do.

The state legislation will be subject to public scrutiny. Under the zoning proposal that will be considered early next year, open amusements in the "mapped parkland" will become the centerpiece of a 27-acre year-round amusement district with — on the privately owned parcels — open and enclosed amusements, hotels, water parks, restaurants, performance venues, skating rinks and similar complementary attractions.

Amanda Burden, Manhattan
City Planning Commissioner.

MTA bums

To the editor,

I read your article about the MTA building at 370 Jay St., ("Downtown to MTA: Sell 370 Jay St," Oct. 25) and thought it was long overdue.

Now the trick is to get the MTA to do something. They always figure that once the dust settles, they can go back to their old routine of neglect. The only time the MTA does anything is when its feet are in the fire.

Al Pankin, Downtown

The BQ-Evil

To the editor,

Your article on the "triple cantilever" section of the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway ("Triple threat! Experts: BQE repairs threaten 'park,'" Oct. 25) reported that repairs are long overdue and the cantilevered section could collapse if it is not fixed by 2018, and a plan won't even be in place until 2015.

In 1961, President Kennedy challenged NASA to get a man on the moon in that decade. Eight years and two months later, Neil Armstrong walked on the moon.

In 1994, an earthquake destroyed more than eight miles of the Santa Monica Freeway. That repair was started within three months and the freeway was reconstructed in another six months.

Six years to create the final plan for 8,000 feet of highway is a joke. And waiting three more years to start repairs that are currently overdue seems reckless.

This city has many great engineering schools.

Herbert Marks, Brooklyn Heights

Term-oil!

To the editor,

Councilman David Yassky was trying to reframe the issue of term limits in a very self-serving manner ("Yassky is still undecided on term limits," Oct. 18). When he said "it is incumbent upon me to weigh the benefits of a 12-year limit against the desire to have the decision remain in the hands of the voters."

The issue is more properly framed as whether the Council should overturn the two public referenda that created term limits or leave the question alone.

If Yassky truly believed that the Council has the power to extend term limits and that 12 years is better than eight, then he should have proposed legislation that would make that extension effective only for those not already serving, including the mayor.

I voted against term limits twice. Yassky and all of the other councilmembers had a clear obligation to uphold the will of the voters, even though they may disagree.

Marc Korashan, Park Slope

• • •

To the editor,

Mayor Bloomberg's call for a third term is an odd development. Suddenly Mayor Mike is under the mistaken impression that he can somehow rescue New York City from the mess that Wall Street greed has gotten us all into?

It's funny how we as voters, and as "regular people," didn't share in any of the profits from which these bankers and investors benefited when the system was running amok, yet we will be called upon now to rescue it.

Robert Segarra, Park Slope

Un-American?

To the editor,

I am a regular reader of The Brooklyn Paper and I have never felt compelled to write a letter to the editor until I saw the front-page story about the cars that the judges at the Adams Street courthouse drive ("Un-American! Judges turn park into foreign car lot," Oct. 18).

I acknowledge that it is quite possible that the article under this headline is meant to be humorous. But I still don't agree with its premise.

I am a soon-to-be American citizen who lives in Carroll Gardens, and I am married to a state judge in Brooklyn. Want to know what I think is un-American? Judges in New York State have not received a raise in over 10 years! Not even an adjustment for the cost of living, which means that they, in fact, have seen their income reduced for the last 10 years, making it very hard, especially in the city, to maintain a middle-class standard of life.

This is a great country, a democratic country, which likes to hold itself up as an example to countries. One of the safeguards of a well-functioning democracy is the quality of its judiciary system. It is appalling that the state legislature has refused to give judges a raise for so long.

However "irksome" the temporary judges' parking lot may be for pedestrians, is it too much to temporarily tolerate so that judges take advantage of one of the few perks they have?

The lack of a raise in 10 years limits the pool of people who become judges, including some who would be excellent at it.

And, by the way, that's our 10-year old Volvo in the right side of the picture on your front page.

Please don't throw around the term "un-American" in this manner.

Reineke Hollander, Carroll Gardens

McMahon for Congress

Often on Election Day, the voters' choice boils down to which of the two candidates is the least objectionable. Fortunately, Bay Ridge, Dyker Heights and Bensonhurst voters have a chance to cast their ballots for a worthy candidate for Congress on Tuesday, Nov. 4: Councilman Mike McMahon.

During his eight years on the Council, McMahon has been an amiable aisle-crosser, a Democrat who has served more-conservative Staten Island and shown leadership on issues like solid waste, ferry service, and requiring the city to always have a nurse on duty in every school.

Usually, we don't take much stock in a candidates' endorsements, but McMahon's list is so broad — it includes Conservative Staten Island Borough President Jim Molinaro, Republican Mayor Mike Bloomberg, and Democratic Sen. Hillary Clinton — that voters can be confident that McMahon will move the district beyond the petty partisan politics during 26 years that the seat has been in Republican control.

McMahon's main opponent, former Assemblyman Robert Straniere, is so far outside the mainstream that his own Republican party ex-communicated him several years ago.

We disagree with Straniere's belief that prosperity will automatically rain down on all Americans if taxes are slashed on the wealthy. And we certainly cannot abide his staunch anti-abortion position — which would deny women the right to make that choice even in the case of rape or incest.

Strainere is far out of step with the constituents he hopes to represent.

Clearly, with his overall competence, solid judgment and his support for mainstream Democratic positions, Mike McMahon is the better candidate.

We proudly endorse him for Congress.

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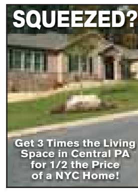

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LEGAL NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, PURSUANT TO LAW, that the NYC Dept. of Consumer Affairs will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday November 12, 2008 at 2:00 p.m., at 66 John Street, 11th floor, on a petition from Agora Inc., to continue, maintain, and operate an unenclosed sidewalk café at 152 Metropolitan Avenue, in the Borough of Brooklyn, for a term of two years. REQUEST FOR A COPY OF THE REVOCABLE CONSENT MAY BE ADDRESSED TO DEPT. OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, 42 BROADWAY, NEW YORK NY 10004 ATTN: FOIL OFFICER
BP43-44

Notice of Formation of Aleks Process Servicing LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 10/9/08. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to LLC, 2197 Ocean Avenue, #2E, Brooklyn, NY 11229. Purpose: any lawful activity.
BP43-48

NOTICE OF INTENT – UPROSE is pleased to announce our application to Step 2 of the Department of State and Environmental Conservation's Brownfield Opportunity Areas Program. Step 2 will provide an in-depth and thorough description and analysis of existing conditions, opportunities, and reuse potential for contaminated and under-utilized properties located in Sunset Park. If you have questions or would like to view the submittal documents we have prepared, please call (718) 492 9307 to schedule an appointment. The application will be available for review until Dec 1, 2008 at our office. UPROSE is located at 166A 22nd Street between 3rd and 4th avenues. Siempre En Lucha Y Siempre Por Nuestra Gente – 166A 22nd Street Brooklyn, NY 11232 (t) 718 492 9307 (f) 718 492 9030
BP43

Notice is hereby given that a license, number 1205033, has been applied for by El Pollo Inc. to sell beer/wine at retail under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 291 5th Avenue, Brooklyn NY 11215, for on-premises consumption.
BP42-43

The Board of Trustees of PAVE Academy Charter School will meet at 645PM on Tuesday, Nov. 4, 2008. This meeting is open to the public and will take place at 150 E 52nd St., Manhattan in the Office of Normancy Hill Partners.
BP43

Notice is hereby given that a license number 1216569 for liquor and wine has been applied for by the undersigned to sell liquor and wine at retail in a Restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 663 Washington Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11238, in Kings County, for on-premises consumption. Undersigned: 633 Restaurant Corp dba: Taqueria de los Muertos
BP 43-44

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 28th day of October, 2008, bearing Index Number NC-000996-08/KI, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Erin Xylena Tarlowe. My present name is Adam Joseph Tarlowe a/k/a Adam J. Tarlowe a/k/a Adam Tarlowe. My present address is 216 7th Street, #1, Brooklyn, NY 11215. My place of birth is Livingston, NJ. My date of birth is November 11, 1983.
PS43

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 8th day of October, 2008, bearing Index Number N00934/08, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Andrea Carolina Cruz. My present name is Ana Carolina Cruz a/k/a Ana C. Cruz a/k/a Ana Cruz. My present address is 73A Grove Street, Brooklyn, NY 11221. My place of birth is Brooklyn, NY. My date of birth is March 28, 1987.
DT43

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 23rd day of October, 2008, bearing Index Number NC-000981-08/KI, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Sharu Stephanie Mundell-Williams. My present name is Sharu Stephanie Mundell a/k/a Sharu S. Mundell-Williams. My present address is 125 Ocean Parkway, #6L, Brooklyn, NY 11218. My place of birth is New Hyde Park, NY. My date of birth is March 29, 1979.
BR43

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 21st day of October, 2008, bearing Index Number NC-000969-08/KI, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Emmanuel Isakov. My present name is Emmanuil Isakov. My present address is 249 Ocean Parkway, #2B, Brooklyn, NY 11218. My place of birth is Ukraine. My date of birth is March 23, 1992.
OP43

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 24th day of October, 2008, bearing Index Number NC-000985-08/KI, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Aya Sofia Elamrani Zerifi. My present name is Aya Sofia Elamrani. My present address is 8128 Bay 16th Street 3rd Floor, Brooklyn, NY 11214. My place of birth is Brooklyn, NY. My date of birth is June 09, 2008.
BEN43

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 24th day of October, 2008, bearing Index Number NC-000987-08/KI, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Isaiah Francisco Brito Mesa. My present name is Isaiah Francisco Brito. My present address is 448 52nd Street, Brooklyn, NY 11220. My place of birth is Brooklyn, NY. My date of birth is August 04, 2008.
SUN43

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 24th day of October, 2008, bearing Index Number N00983/08, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Lana Tanich. My present name is Svetlana Voroshilova a/k/a Svetlana Sergeyevna Voroshilova. My present address is 1861 73rd Street, Brooklyn, NY 11204. My place of birth is City of Frunze, Kyrgyzstan. My date of birth is July 07, 1989.
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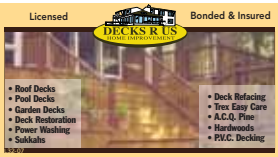

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